

THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 19.

Saturday, May 9, 1863.

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1. ON THE STUDY OF ANTHROPOLOGY. By Dr. James Hunt, F.R.S. (President).
 2. ON THE INDIAN TRIBES OF LORETO. By Prof. Raimond.
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 5. NOTES ON A CASE OF MICROCEPHALY. By R. T. Gore, Esq., F.R.S.
 6. REPORTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE SOCIETY, &c., &c. Prof. Waltz's work, "Anthropologie der Naturvolker," is now in the press. Some Memoirs are also being prepared for publication.
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The ANNUAL MEETING will be held in St. James's Hall, Regent Street, on THURSDAY, the 28th of May, proximo, when the President, the Right Hon. the EARL OF HARROWBY, assisted by several Noblemen and Gentlemen, will conduct the proceedings. The Chair will be taken at One o'clock precisely. Further particulars will be advertised, and cards of admission may be had of 12, Pall Mall, S.W. JOHN COLAM, Secretary.

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SATURDAY, 9 MAY, 1863.

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MR. GLADSTONE AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF BENEVOLENCE.

IF the boldest and most extraordinary intellectual feat of the passing week deserves record in a literary journal, Mr. Gladstone's great speech on Monday night last claims notice here as well as in the columns of the political newspapers. It was one of the most brilliant efforts that the House of Commons has witnessed for many a day, and a new and most interesting revelation of Mr. Gladstone's powers and the progress of his ideas. But it is not only because the speech was an intellectual feat and an intellectual curiosity of the moment that we are entitled to refer to it. The circumstances made it more than that; they bring it exactly within the class of things of which we are bound to take cognisance. Owing to the overwhelming opposition mustered out-of-doors against the proposal to extend the Income-tax to charities, the measure which the speech defended was withdrawn. While Mr. Gladstone was making the speech, he knew that he must withdraw the measure. The speech, therefore, remains purely an intellectual manifesto—a treatise or protest on an important subject, orally delivered in the House of Commons, but flung forth from that House for criticism, discussion, and review by all who read and think. It is, in fact, one of the most startling publications of the day—an addition by our present Chancellor of the Exchequer to a department of speculative literature in which he has been preceded by men like Adam Smith, and Turgot, and Malthus, and Chalmers, and Mill.

The principle which pervaded Mr. Gladstone's speech is that the present immunity or exemption of charitable foundations from the Income-tax and other forms of direct taxation is the same thing as a donation or vote by the State to those foundations of the precise amount of money which they are thus exempted from paying. Estimating the total amount of Income-tax which would be levied on the existing charities of the country at £250,000 per annum, he maintained that their exemption to this amount

is in reality a State-gift to the same amount distributed among them, and that, if people were to realise this, and conceive the thing in this way, there might be a different state of public opinion from that which now appears as to the propriety of the exemption. His argument may be represented thus:—Suppose a man, whether in health or on his death-bed, to make over property to the amount of £1000 a-year to some charity: what happens? Does he not, as things now are, transfer this £1000 a-year from the taxable Income of the country—seeing that in his own hands it would have been taxed, or, if it had gone in the ordinary way to others, it would still have been taxed—over to the untaxable Income of the country? But, in doing so, since the amount of tax so lost must be made good to the revenue, is he not, by this deed of charity of his, actually compelling all his fellow-taxpayers to go along with him in it—whether they will or not, and whether they might think it judicious or not—to the extent of the sum that will be necessary to make up for what he has placed beyond the reach of the revenue? In other words, according to the present system, does not every man in making a charitable bequest compel the community to be a partner in his own whim or beneficent intention?

If this principle of Mr. Gladstone's is sound, as he stoutly maintained it to be, it is certainly calculated to rouse people. Were all the charities now in the country perfectly unexceptionable, and such as all would approve of, is it right that the community should thus be made partners to them without consultation and agreement to do so? Would it not be better that the money given to them by the community should be given, not in the shape of exemption, but in the shape of duly-considered vote or subvention? Were all our charities, indeed, proper and unexceptionable, this might be a question of mere theoretical symmetry, and of little practical consequence to the general mind. But this is a wholly ideal supposition. What if the existing charities of Britain are not all unexceptionable? What if there are differences of opinion as to the public utility of many of them? What if many of them are pronounced by present experience, and by our present political economy, and have been pronounced by past experience and by the best minds that in recent ages have investigated subjects of political science, to be absurd, pernicious, mischievous? Here it was that Mr. Gladstone burst into a region of squibs and crackers not yet explored by any British Parliament. He grappled, like a political philosopher, with this word "charity"—smiting with his axe the sacred image which so few dare to touch, and showing the hair and the rubbish and the old bones that compose the inside of it; and he hinted at the possibility of a classification of charities on just principles, in which the greater number of those now existing would have to be disavowed and condemned, while only a few would survive as defensible or laudable. First of all, he called attention to the fact that the great bulk of the funds of our so-called charities consists not of accumulated offerings of charity properly so called—not of sums benevolently sacrificed by living men for objects which they have at heart—but of accumulated bequests of dead men, deciding the destiny of moneys which the testators could no longer use and could not carry with them. He did not, by this distinction, imply that death-bed bequests might not often be laudable, might not often be the acts of persons who had been charitable in their lives—done in the same spirit of charity. But he pointed out that it is precisely the real and unmistakeable gifts of charity that in our present system have no exemption made in their favour—that the £100 that a truly benevolent man gives to a hospital has been charged with Income-tax all the same as if he had kept it, and that many young institutions supported by such voluntary gifts are in a struggling and languishing state, while the great accumulations of

dead men's bequests escape tax-free. "If you are to help charities by this kind of State-subvention," he virtually said, "better to help the poor and struggling ones, which do represent the voluntary tendencies of present benevolence, than the old and rich ones, which, if they represent any benevolence at all, represent the benevolence of by-gone times and of by-gone sets of ideas." But then he entered on an examination of the merits of many of our existing foundations, boldly citing well-known instances in illustration. He strengthened his own assertions by quoting the strong language of former Charity Commissions as to certain foundations, and as to the great proportion of our existing foundations that are unnecessary, worthless, or mere social nuisances.

Mr. Gladstone did not expressly enunciate the principle by which he discriminated between those charities which sound political science may respect and those others which it must abominate. But he hinted the principle, and it may be gathered from his speech. It is, doubtless, the principle so beautifully expounded long ago by the famous French thinker and statesman, Turgot, in his Essay on Foundations, and again expounded and enforced by many subsequent philosophers and economists, but by none so incessantly and emphatically as Dr. Chalmers. That principle is that one test of a sound as contrasted with an unsound foundation—not the only test, perhaps, but one—is furnished by the answer to this question, "Does this foundation only supply a want which its own existence has created, or does it supply a want which would exist independently and at any rate?" All such foundations or charities, said Turgot and Dr. Chalmers, as, by their existence, create their own objects, beget the wants they themselves relieve, or, like the spear of Achilles, only heal the wounds themselves have made, are radically vicious, and condemned by sound economy. A Foundling Hospital is of this sort. It simply creates foundlings that would not have been; or, for one foundling protected by it that would have been in the nature of things if the hospital had not existed, it extracts hundreds from society by the temptation it offers. So most institutions for the relief of the poor merely create their own objects—Jarvis's Charity, mentioned by Mr. Gladstone, being a splendid instance. Because old Jarvis had left a lot of money for the relief of the poor in certain parishes, these parishes became nests of pauperism. On the other hand, no one will break his leg or catch a fever for the comfort of getting into a hospital. Of all kinds of foundations, indeed, hospitals for the cure of disease are those which sound economy and sound benevolence pronounce to be in their nature the most unexceptionable. They do not create their own objects; they relieve suffering which they have not brought into existence.

While signifying his willingness to abandon the measure which his speech advocated, Mr. Gladstone used these words:—"Although I may have felt that it was, on the present occasion, my lot to address an adverse assembly, yet I have deemed it to be my duty as a minister of the Crown not to shrink from the discharge of the obligation which was imposed upon me. I am convinced, moreover, that, in inviting public attention to ground hitherto almost untrodden, this discussion will not be without its fruits." These words are rather ominous. They reveal, it seems to us, the political thinker, with ulterior views in his mind, speaking through the prudent and practical Chancellor of the Exchequer. They point to the great question, "What ought to be the policy of the State with respect to the power of individuals to bequeath their property for charitable or intellectual purposes after they are dead?" They seem to avow Mr. Gladstone's belief—the belief of the member for the University of Oxford, and the zealous friend of Church establishments—that British society is now full to the brim with the mere organized whims of dead men, in the forms of great institutions

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which will not admit of the philosophic justifications that may be offered for university and ecclesiastical endowments, but which lock up money uselessly, outrage the clearest maxims of present political science, and pervert the healthy and natural course of social activity. They seem to hint Mr. Gladstone's belief that, if the State may not overhaul these dead whims, already organized, with a view to put its stamp on those that may be preserved without much harm and to cancel the others, it ought at least to abstain from encouraging miscellaneous new bequests simply because they take the name of charities. By Mr. Gladstone's proposal in his budget the State would still have *tolerated* many bequests which sound wisdom must pronounce useless or injurious; it would only have secured that the State should not *subsidize* such bequests, or be a partner to them. It is a very important thing for the State to concede, either to the dead or to the living, the power of placing a certain proportion of the property of the country out of the reach of that taxation which falls on ordinary property, and so of increasing the taxation that does fall on such ordinary property. Is the country prepared to do this with our present charities? This is the question which Mr. Gladstone proposed. He thought that the State should at least exercise that little hold upon the charities—that slight negative way of expressing its bad opinion of many of them and its doubt about others—which would consist in not remitting anything in their favour. But, now that his proposal is rejected—properly rejected, perhaps, as giving too great a shock to the feelings of many men of sense and influence—what will Mr. Gladstone do? Holding the principles which his speech reveals, and seeming also to hold that deeper principle of the philosophy of benevolence which maintains that benevolence ought to be benevolence, and that it is a violation of the laws of human nature to transfer the proper work of benevolence to legality or justice, he may have, in this country of a Poor-law, to go very far, if he follows the leading of Turgot.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

ROBERTSON OF ELLON.

Life of the Rev. James Robertson, D.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Divinity and Ecclesiastical History in the University of Edinburgh. By the Rev. A. H. Charteris, M.A., Minister of Newabbey. (Edinburgh and London: Blackwood and Sons.)

ROBERTSONS are numerous enough; and not a few of that name have been eminent in one way or another. Of these eminent Robertsons Scotland has had several; but, among these again, the Dr. James Robertson who is the subject of the present memoir—"Robertson of Ellon" as he was named, by way of distinction, throughout the greater part of his active life—had such peculiarities of character and went through such a career as will prevent his memory, so far as it is preserved, from being confounded with that of any of the others. He was born in Pitsligo, a parish in the north of Aberdeenshire, in 1803, the son of a poor farmer; and he died in Edinburgh on the 2nd of December, 1860, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, having by that time become one of the acknowledged leaders, and, if not absolutely the chief intellect, at all events the weightiest and most hard-working in the present Established Church of Scotland since the Free Church had separated from it. The life thus outlined divides itself into three parts. In the first part, ending in 1832—or in Robertson's twenty-eighth year—we see him as a sturdy, hard-headed lad, working his way from school to college under those difficulties which poor Scottish lads and their parents so often encounter; distinguishing himself at college in mathematics and in those other studies in which strong memory and the kind of strong reasoning power we call "hard-headedness" ensure success; then

earning his living in the manner usual with young Scottish preachers before they receive a charge—that is, as a private tutor, as parish-schoolmaster in his native parish, and latterly as head-master of a hospital in Aberdeen for the education of boys; but finally attaining what was the end of his ambition in being appointed minister of the parish of Ellon, in the bleaker district of his native county. Here begins the second portion of his life—extending from 1832 to 1843, or from Robertson's twenty-eighth to his forty-first year. During this time he was "Robertson of Ellon" in the most emphatic sense, working and disciplining his parish with a thoroughness and an assiduity which made his name known in those northern parts, and at the same time dominating by his intellectual superiority in the meetings of the Presbytery or cluster of parishes to which Ellon belonged, and figuring also at the rarer Synod-meetings or half-yearly meetings of the whole clergy of Aberdeenshire. These eleven years, during which Mr. Robertson was "Robertson of Ellon," almost coincide with the period of that great controversy in the Scottish Kirk which led to the disruption of the Kirk in 1843; and it was by his strenuous appearances as a pamphleteer, a debater in the Church Courts, and altogether one of the most earnest and indefatigable men on what was called "The Moderate" side of this controversy—i.e., the side standing up in the main for Toryism in the system of the Kirk, and therefore opposed to the Veto-Act and to Drs. Chalmers, Candlish, Cunningham, and the rest of the Non-Intrusionists—that "Robertson of Ellon" became gradually known to his countrymen at large and to the few statesmen out of Scotland who concerned themselves with the struggle going on in the Kirk. Before the fatal issue of the struggle, Robertson had taken his place as indubitably the ablest gladiator among the Moderates—the young leader on that side, succeeding the older Cooks and the Mearnses, who were going off the stage. Moreover, he was a man whom, not only on account of his ability, but on account of an unusual degree of liberality which accompanied it, the greatest of his opponents learned to respect. It was a natural consequence of the reputation which he had thus acquired that, when the great secession of the Free Church left many of the chief posts in the "residuary" Establishment vacant, "Robertson of Ellon" should be designated as the fittest man to be promoted to some one of these. It was desirable that the post he should hold should be important in itself, and should confer on him the necessary opportunities for doing his best for the service and the intellectual support of an institution still national in name, but grievously weakened and impoverished by the departure from it of so much virtue and talent in the persons of Chalmers, Welsh, Candlish, Cunningham, Guthrie, and other founders of the Free Church. In 1843—the year of the Disruption—Mr. Robertson ceased to be "Robertson of Ellon" in fact (though the name always stuck to him), and became Dr. Robertson, Welsh's successor as Professor of Divinity and Church History in the University of Edinburgh. Thenceforward, as a resident in Edinburgh, he was the depositary of the most important counsels of the Established Church, one of its central minds, and the official manager of some of its schemes. During the last years of his life he toiled indefatigably in a great Endowment scheme—a kind of adaptation or revival of the Church Extension Scheme of Dr. Chalmers—the purpose of which was to raise a vast sum of money for the endowment of additional parish-churches in Scotland, and so to bring the machinery of the Church more nearly into correspondence with the increase of the population and with the masses of Scottish heathenism which, in consequence of this increase, were escaping the reach equally of the Established, of the Free, and of the other Dissenting churches. He had great success in this work; and it was partly in consequence of the medicinal energy in a specific course of practical activity thus

thrown into the establishment, at a time when continued controversy with the Free Church would have been profitless, and partly also in consequence of the general liberality of spirit of which Dr. Robertson showed an example, that, before his death, he saw the Established Church in a better position than, at the time of the Disruption, could have been expected for her, and heard the opinion expressed in many quarters—an opinion which is, right or wrong, expressed in some quarters still—that, contrary to all that could have been anticipated, the old Scottish establishment was allowing more of liberty, and more of elbow-room for the clerical minds within it than that rival church which the free and noble genius of Chalmers had founded, but which, within four years after its foundation, had lost, by Chalmers's death, its grandest guidance.

Such was the life of which a narrative in detail is given to the public in the volume before us. Mr. Charteris, the writer of the biography, was a pupil of Dr. Robertson, and intimately acquainted with him; and Dr. Robertson's widow and many of Dr. Robertson's friends have placed in his hands the necessary materials, in the shape of private letters and papers. Out of these materials, together with the information to be derived from Dr. Robertson's published writings, and the already printed records of the controversies in which he was engaged, as well as from inquiries among Dr. Robertson's surviving friends as to his earlier life, Mr. Charteris has prepared his volume. It is exceedingly well done—the story being generally told in authentic extracts from documents and correspondence; while what Mr. Charteris himself supplies in the form of connecting narrative is succinct, simple, manly, and to the purpose. A tone of admiration for Dr. Robertson pervades the whole, more enthusiastic, perhaps, than most readers will think warranted; but the admiration is sincere, and, in a biographer knit by such close relations to the subject of his biography, its very strength is pleasing. Mr. Charteris, being a minister of the Established Church, does not affect to write of the Non-Intrusion Controversy and its results in an unconcerned manner and with philosophic indifference; but he steps over the *ignes suppositi* as discreetly as could be expected, and shows a good deal of that liberal spirit in the retrospect of past strife which was exemplified in his hero.

The volume will be greatly run after in Scotland. Members of the Established Church will welcome such a memorial of one of its most recent champions; and members of the Free Church will be anxious to examine its statements, and will, doubtless, find reason to dispute not a few of them. For the "general reader"—and especially for the "general reader" out of Scotland—the volume will not possess attractions of this kind. "What do you think of our Beriah Green?" asked an American, who was in England on a visit, of one of our greatest men of letters, whose good opinion all Americans are especially anxious to obtain. "Your Beriah Green?" was the reply: "never heard of the man in my life till this moment!" And so, famous as "Robertson of Ellon" was on the north side of the Tweed, the probability is that most persons on the south side have never heard of his existence. This, however, is an obscurity which he shares with not a few of his contemporaries who were as conspicuous in Scotland as himself; and there are several classes of readers who, though they may never have heard of "Robertson of Ellon" before, would find matter of interest in his biography. What classes of readers these are will have been indicated by the sketch we have given of Dr. Robertson's life. Those who care to read of the manner of life of a hard-headed Scottish student, in very poor circumstances, while attending college, or of the habits and manner of life of a hard-working Scottish parish-minister, will find not a little to interest them in the volume. Those who want to have in brief compass an account of that Scottish Non-

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Intrusion Controversy of 1834-1843, which Scotchmen complain that no Englishman ever understood yet, will find such an account here—one-sided certainly, but not uncandid. Those who want to know how a successful Church-extension scheme was worked will find that here also. Finally, those who, with no special direction of taste, simply like biographic reading as such, because it adds new characters to their portrait-gallery, may do far worse than take up the life of "Robertson of Ellon." Here is an account of the expenses of young Robertson when he was a student at Marischal College, Aberdeen—the college of the famous Dugald Dalgetty.

If there was little to foster the leisurely acquirements of scholarship, there was much to develop self-reliant character in James Robertson's early struggle with limited means. Expensive lodgings he could not afford; and Mr. Robertson fixed on a house in a lane opening off the Gallowgate for his son's abode. The other rooms were fully occupied by tradesmen and mechanics; but in the garret-room was only one lodger, a student, and he was willing to have a companion. The furniture consisted of a bed, two chairs, and a table, which sufficed for themselves; and the students were not likely to have many visitors. It was agreed that for his share of the apartment James should pay 1s. 6d. per week, supplying his own food. This weekly rent, with his college fees, was all the money he needed, for his victuals came from home, and his clothes were also sent home to be washed. Few linens were required when only a mother's eye saw the scanty stock, and her careful hand kept them in repair. That was a great day in the poor student's week when his box came with the carrier; a letter on the top of its contents, telling what they were doing at Ardlaw; potatoes in the bottom; every corner filled with careful mixture of provisions and clothes; eggs stuffed safely into stockings; oat-cakes and scones dexterously arranged so as to give least chance of being crushed; occasional supplies of money folded in the letter or spread on the breast of a shirt;—all telling him of a love and thoughtfulness and anxiety for his comfort, that cheered his heart amid its loneliness. . . . In these days, when attention is turned to our Universities, some may care to know how much money was required for the support of a student. The outlay in money of James Robertson for fees and lodgings in his first year was little more than £6. If we add a small sum for travelling expenses, and a sum still smaller for pocket-money, we have an accurate estimate. Most certainly the expenses did not amount to £8. His food and clothing were exactly such as he would have had at home, and were therefore no part of special college expenditure. It is not to be supposed that the average outlay of students was so small as this—his economy was almost as exceptional then as it would now be—but we must not forget the encouragement to the talented children of the poor in the fact that it was possible to be a student on such terms. It was thus the farmer's son rose to be one of the first men in his Church, and one of the best benefactors of his country.

Should the reader wish to have a portrait of this poor student in his mature life, after he had become "one of the first men in his Church," the following sketch of him by Hugh Miller, quoted by Mr. Charteris, may serve the purpose—a sketch, it is to be remembered, drawn by an adverse hand, and in a half-satirical spirit. Hugh Miller is describing the "Moderate" leaders in the General Assembly of 1841, and has just described Dr. Cook.

Now mark beside the doctor a man of a very different appearance—in stature not exceeding the middle size, but otherwise of such large proportions that they might serve a robust man of six feet. We read of ships of the line cut down to frigates, and of frigates cut down to gunboats; here is a very large man cut down to the middle size, and, as if still further to exaggerate the figure, there is a considerable tendency to obesity besides. Hence a very marked uncouthness of outline, with which the gestures correspond, but it is an uncouthness in which there is nothing ludicrous; it is an uncouthness associated evidently with power, as in the case of Churchill and Gibbon, or in the still better known case of Dr. Johnson. Mark the head. It is of large capacity—one of the largest in the Assembly, perhaps, and of formidable development. The region of propensity is so ample that it gives to the back part of the

head a semi-spherical form; the forehead is broad and perpendicular, but low, and partially hidden by a profusion of strong black hair, largely tinged with grey. The development of the coronal region is well-nigh concealed from the same cause; but, judging from the general flatness, it is inferior to that of either the posterior or anterior portions of the head. The features are not handsome; but in their rudely blocked massiveness there are evident indications of coarse vigour. He speaks, and the voice seems as uncommon as the appearance of the man. There is a mixture of very deep and very shrill tones, and the effect is heightened still further by a strong northern accent; but it rings powerfully on the ear, and in even the remote galleries not a single tone is lost. That man might address in the open air some eight or ten thousand persons—he is the very *beau ideal* of a vigorous democrat—a popular leader, born for a time of tumults and commotions. . . . That uncouth, powerful-looking man, so fitted, apparently, for leading the masses broke loose, is the great friend and confidant, and, so far at least as argument and statement are concerned, the grand caterer—flapper, as Gulliver would perhaps say—to the Tory Earls of Dalhousie, Haddington, and Aberdeen. If nature intended him for a popular leader, never, surely, was there an individual more sadly misplaced. We have before us the redoubtable Mr. Robertson of Ellon—the second name and first man of his party. . . . Mr. Robertson is undoubtedly the natural head of his party, the leader of the forlorn-hope of Moderatism. He has character, courage, momentum, and unyielding firmness.

This portrait, if we allow for a little exaggeration, is not at all inexact. Nor is a brief counter-description inexact which, singularly enough, Dr. Robertson gave, about the same time, of Hugh Miller. "By the bye," he writes to his wife, "the editor of the *Witness* was this day examined before our Commission. He is a strange-looking, red-haired man, by no means particularly ready in his answers." In one particular, Hugh Miller did Robertson more than justice in the above. Robertson's voice, though very powerful, was extraordinarily harsh, and absolutely tearing to a sensitive ear. It, as well as his build, look, and everything about him, gave one the idea of a sturdy, hard-headed, hard-working man, likely to be of great weight anywhere, but by no means of that intellectual order to which we apply the term "genius." And the present Life bears out the expression. Robertson is represented as never having been an eloquent preacher of the popular sort, or a man of brilliant or poetical mind. Hard-headedness and laboriousness are the characteristics exhibited in him all through. There is added, however, in the biography, an impression of rather rare earnestness and candour, as well as of deep piety, and, what is more, somewhat curious proof of a life-long tendency to certain trains and modes of speculation not usually associated with what we understand by "hard-headedness." Thus Robertson was, all his life, a great admirer of the subtle philosophy of Coleridge—in imitation of whom, we believe, he used to find arguments for the doctrine of the Trinity in the analogy of all kinds of natural Triads; and, though resolutely and even sternly orthodox, he took in later life with much relish to German theology. "That the German method has its dangers I readily allow," he wrote in 1853 to a friend who had lent him a paper on Bunsen's "Hippolytus;" "but, holding it to be the only method which can lead us to earnest living convictions, I greatly fear that all the safety which we shall be able to secure for ourselves by turning away from it will prove at the best but very precarious. It will be but such a safety from immediate harm as a man may fancy he obtains by holding himself back from grappling with evils that are thickening round him while they might yet be overcome. The truth is, that much of what we talk of preserving is even now a miserable sham; and, but a little more delay, and we shall have nothing at all to preserve." The spirit here shown of candour and independence in reasoning was, doubtless, one source of Dr. Robertson's influence throughout his life.

MR. DICEY'S TOUR IN THE FEDERAL STATES.

Six Months in the Federal States. By Edward Dicey. (Macmillan & Co.)

WE are glad that a press of other American matter compelled us to postpone till to-day the greater part of what we had to say on Mr. Dicey's book, because we are thus enabled to do him justice upon one point, as to which every author, however case-hardened he may be against all ordinary criticism, may reasonably feel aggrieved. In an unfriendly notice of the book in the last number of a literary journal, the author is twice pointedly alluded to as "the friend of Cavour." These words are placed between inverted commas, as though Mr. Dicey had himself made use of them. No such words as those between the inverted commas are to be found in these volumes. The book, indeed, is singularly free from the egotism which mars so many books of travel. It is impossible to read a chapter without feeling that you are in contact with a distinct person—a man with a character and definite views of his own. But this is the one essential of any book of travels worth reading. You do not want the gleanings of long ears in any part of the globe, or the narrative of the petty personal inconveniences which make a deeper impression on so many vagrant Englishmen than the life of the nations and cities which they visit. But, on the other hand, a book of travels in which you can never get a glimpse of the traveller, and form some idea for yourself of what manner of man he is, is about as insipid as the old school-manuals of geography which one suffered under as a boy. Mr. Dicey seems to us to have succeeded in fixing attention on just those points upon which all who are interested in America are most anxious to get trustworthy evidence, and to have established his position as a trustworthy witness by his open statement of facts which run counter to his own views and sympathies.

One of the most interesting parts of the book is the sketch of the Western States in the second volume. We scarcely remember to have met in any modern book of travels with a picture, compressed into half-a-dozen pages, which leaves a more vivid impression on the mind of the physical features of the country described—enabling you to shut your eyes and realize how it really looks, from the deck of a river-steamer, or the back of a horse—than his description of the Mississippi and the prairie, the new town of Lanark, and the thirty-years-old capital city of Chicago. But it is not the physical features of the great west which make it just now an object of such deep interest. In all human probability the future of the war in America depends upon the line which the men of the Western States may take in the next few months. The evidence, therefore, of so fair and able a traveller as Mr. Dicey is exceedingly valuable. It is true that events move and opinions change so rapidly there that what was true nine months ago may be so no longer; but it is no small help towards a right understanding of the great revolutionary struggle of our day to know how facts stood at any particular time. Mr. Dicey's evidence seems to us completely to explain the attitude of the West. "In these northern states of the west," he sums up, "popular feeling appeared to me more genuinely abolitionist than in any part of the Union. There was little sentiment expressed about the negro's wrongs, but there was a strong feeling that slavery is a bad system and a disgrace to the country, and, still more, there was a bitter hostility—almost a personal antipathy—to the slaveholding aristocracy of the South. Half measures, or patched-up compromises, found little favour with those plain matter-of-fact Western men." This state of feeling is, no doubt, far enough from the conclusion—at which the American people must arrive before the North can hope for success in the war—that slavery, as Mr. Dicey puts it, is "a crime which, like robbery, must be sup-

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pressed, and which no Christian government can permit." But the steps from one to the other are not difficult. The West are much more likely to take them than to recede from the point at which they had already arrived in the summer of 1862; and, should they do so, it may be that the slave states may succeed in establishing their independence and breaking up the Union; but it is scarcely possible that they should ever be able to invade the West with their slaves. It is curious to remark how surely the "irrepressible conflict"—the world-old struggle between freedom and slavery—is coming more and more clearly to the front in the American war, as all persons who had paid any attention to American politics foretold that it must. In the earlier books on the war it was clearly discernible; and all careful readers of the admirable sketches of Mr. Russell and Mr. Trollope must have felt that it was from the first shouldering aside all other questions. In Mr. Dicey's book there is scarcely a chapter in which it does not crop up; and, should we get hereafter any later books of travel in the States during the war, they will be even more full than his of the same absorbing topic. Mr. Dicey has carefully studied the Abolitionist party in America, which has been the object of such virulent abuse both on that continent and here in England. We have often wondered why this should be so both before and since the breaking out of the war. The feeling of thorough-going republicans—men who worked hard for Fremont six years ago, and have been staunch free-soilers ever since the war in Kansas—the tone in which they spoke of such men as Phillips, Garrison, and Greeley—was simply a mystery to us. Mr. Dicey's book suggests the reason for much of this excessive and contemptuous bitterness. The great cause of abolition has been mixed up with, and discredited by, the minor and distinct causes of spiritualism, and "non-resistance, and woman's rights." Lloyd Garrison himself is "as earnest and single-hearted a reformer, I believe, as the world has seen; yet the influence of his life-long struggle against slavery has been disparaged by the fact that he has constituted himself the avowed advocate of every one of the many *isms* which New England has given birth to; and in so doing he has been only too truly the type of his party." It is sad that it should be so; but the Abolition party have by this time, it is to be hoped, shaken themselves clear of all *isms* whatsoever. There are signs of this in every batch of newspapers which comes from America. The Abolitionists are still the objects of very bitter hatred in many quarters; but the scoffs and supercilious contempt, which were all that leading New York and Boston journals used to treat them to, have disappeared. For it is becoming very certain to all American men, that this war, if it is to go on at all after June, must go on upon the broadest Abolition principles. This conclusion has forced itself slowly on Mr. Lincoln, who is even now considering whether he shall not proclaim the slaves in the Border States free, compensating their masters at the rate which has already been voted for Missouri. In American affairs there is no reasoning from the experience of other countries; but it is impossible that, in the event of such a change in the policy of the Northern government, it should not lead to decisive results of some kind. One of the first of these will probably be a change in the Washington Cabinet, and the promotion of some of the leading Abolitionists to power. The party has, therefore, become an object of interest apart from its special views on the slavery question, and Mr. Dicey is the best attainable authority on this subject—in fact, is the only Englishman who has taken the trouble to study the Abolitionists at all. He divides them into three classes—first, the Beecher Stowe party; secondly, the "mountain of Abolitionism" (as he styles it) led by Mr. Conway, the Virginian; and, thirdly, the party of Phillips and Garrison. For some purposes this classification may still be

true; but now the Abolitionists are divided into two sections only—first, those who, with Lowell, Beecher, and Norton, are still first of all for the Union, because they believe that the future of freedom on the continent absolutely depends on its preservation; and, secondly, those who, with Phillips, Conway, and their followers, put immediate Abolition before the Union. Mr. Dicey is mistaken in his belief that Conway and Phillips are not in strict alliance. Mr. Conway is over here as the representative of the Abolitionists, sent by Phillips himself and the men who act with him, to endeavour to show the English people what really are their views.

Mr. Dicey does not speculate on the probable future of the war under Abolitionist guidance; but he weighs the comparative chances of war with England in the event of the success of North or South, and gives the result in a passage which cannot be too much read by us. "Take the other alternative (the success of the South). The North will be for a time a homogeneous, powerful, and prosperous nation of twenty millions of white freemen. As a nation, it will be burning under a sense of disgrace and defeat. The necessity of cementing together what remains of the Union will render a foreign war politically desirable. No war will be so gratifying to the national pride as a war with England. The neutrality of the Southern Confederacy will be purchased easily by acquiescence in its designs on Cuba and Mexico; and a war with England for the Canadas will be the inevitable result of a divided Union. Those who wish for peace, then, must desire the success of the North."

The general belief here seems to be that it will be better and safer for England that the Union should be broken up. We are inclined to agree with Mr. Dicey that our best chance of peace lies in the possibility—not by any means abandoned yet in America—of its ultimate restoration.

We must here leave Mr. Dicey's able volumes. We can confidently assure readers that they will find the ground in them worth trenching carefully and deeply; and we must express our entire concurrence with Mr. J. S. Mill's verdict, that "this is a book which should be in everyone's hands." T. H.

THREE ONE-VOLUME NOVELS.

Heart and Cross. By the Author of "Margaret Maitland." (Hurst and Blackett.)

A Simple Woman. By the Author of "Nut-Brown Maids," &c. (Smith and Elder.)

A Dark Night's Work. By Mrs. Gaskell. (Smith and Elder.)

WE are afraid, after all, that one-volume novels are but a doubtful gain to the novel reader. It is something, of course—at first sight it seems a great deal—to have two thirds of our task struck off; but, if the remaining third is multiplied in proportion, how are we the better for the change? Three times one is still three. It is really time to raise some protest against the notion that a wilful fault is excused by its being a trivial one. We are too much tempted by our superabundant thankfulness at being spared so much to forget our just resentment at being given anything. A bad novel in one volume is a lesser evil than a bad novel in three volumes, but it is an evil still. The class of writers whose intellectual power is exactly equivalent to one volume and no more is but a small one. If they have done that thoroughly well, the chances are that they might have done more equally well. If they have done that thoroughly ill they had much better have done nothing. Perhaps the worst offenders in this way are novelists who give us what they are pleased to call novelettes in the intervals between the publication of their novels. In this instance the nature of the intellectual process employed is very evident. They have turned out the contents, not of their blotting-book—that is kept for their next important effort—but of their waste-paper basket, and sent it off to the printer. In the case of men this precious store is generally used up for cigar-lights;

and this is probably the reason why fictions of this description are mostly written by women. A few shreds of character which the author has been unable to work in elsewhere, a trifle of sentiment, the first draft of a joke, which, even in its perfected form, had been previously, and wisely, rejected—all are thrown in; and the result is somewhat analogous to the appearance sometimes presented by a dinner-table the second day after a party—hashed chicken, two custards, and the third of a mould of jelly.

Why "Heart and Cross" was written we are quite unable to say. It is so devoid of plot, or character, or any other of the elements which we instinctively look for in a story, that it might have been appropriately written by the young gentleman in "Martin Chuzzlewit," who was "apparently born for no particular purpose but to save looking-glasses the trouble of reflecting more than just the first idea and sketchy notion of a face, which had never been carried out." An Indian officer comes home after the mutiny and marries a lady with whom he had been a little in love eight years before. He has won the Victoria Cross by some deed of daring, the precise nature of which is left uncertain; and he brings it down with him from London to a country-house, to which the lady in question comes on a visit. Shortly after her arrival she is sitting at a window, with a little gold chain round her neck. The mistress of the house, who is also the narrator of the story, remarks that "it wants a pendant—a locket—a heart or a cross." Upon which hint the hero moves and speaks to the following purport:—

"For once let me supply what it wants," said Bertie, suddenly starting forward with one of those long, noiseless steps which people only make when they are almost past speaking. He took the end of the chain from Alice's fingers, slid his own matchless decoration on it, clasped it, let it fall. "Heart and Cross!" said Bertie, breathless with feelings he could not speak.

A good part of the volume is taken up with the sayings of the narrator's son, a youth of seven, who, even at that early age, is so intolerable that we have some pleasure in believing he could never have been drawn from life. We will quote only one of his remarks:—

"It's in the Bible that the people used to come to tell everything to the king, and isn't the House of Commons instead of the king in this country? and doesn't everybody go to the House of Commons when they want anything?"

It is clear that the existence, in real life, of infants with views on the constitutional position of the popular element in the Legislature would seriously modify the moral character of infanticide. We only regret that such matter as this should have been written by a lady who can do so very much better.

"A Simple Woman" is a work of very different calibre. It can hardly be called amusing; for the whole story turns upon the visit of a certain Mary Shenstone to some rich cousins, with one of whom she falls in love, and the most startling event is her discovery that there is a will of their grandfather's in existence, disinheriting her lover, Ralph Brooke, and putting her in his place. The grandfather is paralysed; but under Mary's influence he rallies enough, just before his death, to be able to dictate to her another will, by which he gives everything to his grandson. Whereupon the two cousins marry. It must be admitted that it is difficult to feel much interest in knowing whether a given estate ultimately comes into a family through the husband or the wife; and it is a further drawback that no one can care much for any of the people who take part in this unexciting drama, although a most praiseworthy attempt is made to enlist our sympathies on behalf of the heroine by a very feeling mention of "her shabby gown, her inferior dressmaker, her awkward bows, and obtrusive ends." What is the precise idea intended to be conveyed by an "obtrusive end" we can hardly say, unless it is implied that her hands and feet were con-

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spicuously large, in which case we submit that "obtrusive extremities" would have been a less ambiguous expression. But there are other bits of description which are more happy. We especially like the curate, "a long knock-kneed man, black-bearded, though he shaved closely; a dejected man, body and mind; a man who made religion what he would have styled a pensive thing, by his own succumbing to the ills of life;" a widower, "with a middle-aged sister, who wore a yellow parasol like a Chinaman and scarlet stockings like a cardinal, for his housekeeper," and children who were "bunches of soiled winsey and faded cloth, with undesirable curls and unmanageable crinoline," and a tendency to "clutch something which carried a suspicious hint of stickiness." In some, too, of the characters in the Brooke family there is considerable merit. They are dull, but they are true. Ralph Brooke's two sisters—Octavia, the "wonderfully proper and extremely elegant young lady," who, when her mother vanished, became "on the spot bold, high-spirited, not very reverent, slightly coarse, 'Vie';" and Charlotte, "plain and clumsy to a degree that dressing could not cover," with a taste for self-interested benevolence and proselytising piety—are perhaps the best instances. Octavia undergoes a kind of semi-disappointment in a love affair, which promises at one time to unite, in a happy combination, the characteristics of a rather fast flirtation and a mercenary marriage; and, in the end, becomes more and more "addicted to jackets with pockets, in which she carried a riding-whip with the lash twisted up, a dog-whistle, a strong gardener's knife, and, lastly, samples of seeds," while she consoles herself for the prospect of living alone with a disagreeable mother with this curious admixture of moral and physiological reflection:—

It is right that Mamma should fall to me, for I don't mind her too much—that is, of course, we have natural affection for each other—but I don't mind being snubbed any longer. The smart of the thing goes greatly with one's first coming out, when one's shoulders get pink with exercise, and one takes milk to luncheon. Now my shoulders are thin, positively Arbell sees the blades outside my dress; the next thing they will be yellow; and I can drink my glass of Bass or Allsopp as sensibly as they drink it at the second table.

Charlotte marries Mr. Hood, the above-mentioned curate, upon whom she has risen "a ruddy harvest moon, which might yet pour a flood of light on the depression and dimness and dire muddle of his earthly lot."

Charlotte Brooke was not a fair woman, though she was young to Mr. Hood's sere and yellow leaf; not very gentle and sweet, but a lady, and an honest, determined woman, who espoused his cause with her whole vehement heart—worked with him, felt with him . . . cared for his children; above all, out of the failure of his fortunes magnanimously crowned him with a pale reflection of that crown of martyrdom which good weak men, who reel under the buffets of mere ordinary troubles, have often coveted to wear.

It is hardly necessary to criticise, at any length, Mrs. Gaskell's "Dark Night's Work." Many of our readers will already have formed their own judgment on its merits as it came out in "All The Year Round;" and those who have not done so will not need to be told that it is marked by the same finish of style, careful drawing of character, and extreme melancholy, as the rest of Mrs. Gaskell's works. It is hardly wise, perhaps, to hint that we should have liked it better if the first half of the story had been lengthened, and the last half omitted; for we must regard it as a great concession in Mrs. Gaskell that she allows her heroine to marry happily even twenty years after she has been made miserable by her father's error. Still, we have no doubt that the book would have been improved by the alteration. The characters of Elinor, her father, Ralph Corbet, to whom she is in the first instance engaged, and Dunster, her father's partner, whose death gives a title to the novel, are all so well sketched that we should have liked to have seen them worked out in greater detail. And,

when this has not been done, it is rather disappointing to find space which might have been so used taken up with more commonplace incidents. But, though we like the least cheerful half of "A Dark Night's Work" the best, it is impossible not to regret the increasing tendency, which Mrs. Gaskell's later works display, to a depth of wholly unrelieved melancholy. Formerly she was content with killing off most of the collateral or subordinate characters—now, in addition to this, she makes her principal characters so miserable that it would be a charity to treat them after the same fashion. And her heroines do not improve under this severe discipline. Elinor and Sylvia are charming in many ways; but we cannot forget that Mrs. Gaskell has drawn sweeter types of womanhood than these. Will she never give us another Margaret Helstone?

PICTURES OF GERMAN LIFE.

Pictures of German Life. By Gustav Freytag. Translated from the Original by Mrs. Malcolm. First and Second Series. (Chapman and Hall.)

THE first half of Herr Freytag's "Pictures of German Life," as made available for English readers in Mrs. Malcolm's very skilful translation, was published some eight or nine months ago. We are heartily glad that the favourable reception accorded to it has led to the prompt completion of the work. In these four volumes the history of the German people—and, to some extent, the history of all the peoples of modern Europe—is taught in a way that is at once the best and the pleasantest. With no affectation of antiquarian learning, perhaps with less actual scholarship than many antiquaries can boast of, Herr Freytag has the rare and enviable power of calling the dead centuries to life, and of eliciting from them ample information about their varying ways and habits.

His work is a series of selections from documents relating to the social and private life of mediæval and modern Germany—each extract being prefaced or supplemented by a few graphic pages, generalizing the impression caused by the special narrative, and confirming or correcting it on the authority of other documents. One chapter, for example, contains a description of peasant-life in the fourteenth century. In another, the story of a soldier in the Hussite war is made to show the nature of soldiery and its effect upon the character of the people in the later period of mediæval history. A charming bit of autobiography, written by a lady in attendance on a brave widow-Queen of Hungary, is brought in evidence of the rude state of court-life in the fifteenth century. The narrative of a travelling student of the sixteenth century indicates the wandering and unscholastic propensities of the young men with whom Martin Luther mixed; while a noble letter from Martin Luther himself and a string of other quotations bear witness to the temper of monks and knights, burghers and peasants, honest parents and tender wives, at a time when Luther's mighty influence was beginning to work upon every section of society. A cluster of other passages throws light on the condition of the people at the period of the Thirty Years' War, showing what circumstances made it necessary, and what effect it produced upon the German world. Court-life and camp-life, city-life and village-life, again, are exhibited in the many modifications that they assumed during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; while the greater part of the last volume, treating of a period too near our own day to need much antiquarian research for its elucidation, is filled with the author's own intelligent and truthful comments on the nature, the causes, and the issue of the great social improvement that has marked the history of Germany during the past two or three generations. Great changes in the life of a great nation are thus represented in a series of pictures very vivid and interesting because they are very truthful.

The social progress of the Germans may be studied from an earlier date than that of any

other European people of modern origin. Tacitus saw and described them almost at the commencement of their national existence; and the period between his lifetime and the beginning of precise history is bridged over by a goodly number of ascertained facts and trustworthy inferences. The primitive German was a fierce warrior, clothed in skins, and armed with spear and wooden shield—a man to be dreaded by even the bravest and most practised of the Roman soldiery. But he was also a landlord and a householder. He had his separate holding of arable land, in the centre of which was the homestead built by his own hands, and his share in the meadow-land of the community. In peacetime, he and his sons busied themselves with the labours of the field, and his wife and daughters took their several parts in the management of household affairs. If he was prudent and hard-working, he soon enlarged his territory by barter with the more reckless of his neighbours. Before long, perhaps, these neighbours were glad to be relieved from the poverty into which they had fallen by becoming bondsmen to him; and, if they remained for a certain time in this position, their independence was for ever lost. In each generation their number was augmented, and, as the freeman's household grew, he multiplied the varieties of work assigned to those under him. The majority were farm-labourers; others were artisans, wheelwrights, potters, armourers, and goldsmiths. Some of these acquired such success in their several trades that freedom was given to them. As soon as they were free, they formed companies, or guilds, both for maintaining their liberties, and for extending the practice of their various callings. In the meanwhile, the successful landowners, according to their different measures of success, were separated into different classes. Many of them, adhering more and more closely to the profession of arms, were recognised as knights of the kingdom; and, just as most of the free peasants had found it necessary, in consequence either of their own carelessness, or of their neighbours' rapacity, to become bondsmen to a few, so the knights, impoverished by their strife with one another, or overridden by the power of men more able or more fortunate than themselves, were obliged to buy safety by swearing fealty to one or other of their stronger neighbours. Many, again, preferring peaceful to warlike avocations, and anxious only to become wealthy burghers, gladly gave to one of the great knights or barons a portion of their wealth in return for his protection.

In these ways German society, like every other society, was split up into various classes. In these ways, also, was developed a German feudal system, different in many respects from the feudal system established by the Normans in England. Never in Germany were there such barriers between class and class as were set up at an early date in France and England. As late as the fourteenth century, and, in some districts, as late as the time of the Reformation, it was thought no disgrace for a German knight to espouse the daughter of a rich peasant, or to give him his own daughter in marriage; and, with one knightly shield, the rich peasant's son became both vassal and knight. This absence of class-feeling, however, was really baneful to the nation. There is Arcadian simplicity in the picture of German life in the fourteenth or fifteenth century—where the master of the district, whether feudal baron or independent burgher, is the friend of all his dependents; where the mistress is maid and cook to her own household, and doctor to the whole village; where the heir to a vast estate is taught to see his equal in every peasant's son, and himself goes out to feed the poultry as a child, or to tend the cattle as a youth. At the first glance it is a much more hopeful picture than that to be seen in an English homestead of the same period—where the Norman lord rarely vouchsafes a word to his Saxon hinds; where the lady finds her chief delight in listening to the romancer's tedious tales of love and

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war; and where the child is brought up to regard his father's serfs as no better than the beasts of the field. But in the English picture, even at its worst, there is promise of a sturdy fight for political liberty, in which the commoner, never quite forgotten, is in due time to receive equal rights and equal dignity with the baron, and of a steady growth of literature, which is first to produce a Chaucer and a Wyclif, and then a Shakespeare and a Milton. On the other hand, the German picture promises, at best, nothing but a dull round of uneventful life, and even that promise is not fulfilled. The children, left to get all their schooling from grooms and huntsmen, yield a crop of cavaliers who are drunken and dissolute, whose wives are prim and prudish, and whose children are disobedient and extravagant. The people among whom, and for whom, the Reformation was begun, suffered more than two centuries to pass before allowing any of its noblest influences to have their due effect; and the country which seems marked out by nature to be the great central kingdom of Europe is, to this day, broken up into a number of rival states, some larger than others, but none of them possessed of power or will to work anything but mischief in the world of politics.

We have wandered far from Herr Freytag's book, and have left ourselves no space for detailing its merits. But the great merit of the book is that it does compel one's thoughts to wander. Each page is rich in information, but each page is yet more rich in suggestion. Herr Freytag professes to do no more than give a series of pictures, showing the progress, from age to age, of the various classes of society in Germany. He succeeds in this; and he also succeeds in illustrating, with no little clearness, the operation of the general laws of civilization as regards the social, political, and religious development of man.

H. R. F. B.

MISS MULOCK'S FAIRY-BOOK.

The Fairy Book: The Best Popular Fairy Stories Selected and Rendered Anew. By the Author of "John Halifax, Gentleman." Macmillan & Co.)

WILL there ever come a time when women and children will be abolished? Will the change which has begun amongst the girls and the boys extend itself to them as the world wags on? That particular form of humanity which used to be called a girl shows a strong tendency to assume the attributes of an indifferent sort of boy; and the things that used to be boys lean their hot heads on the iron ledges of lecture-rooms, and talk to professors about their Hippocampus majors. In the case of the girls of the day, let us not be swift to blame. They only wish to please; and, as long as decent women are openly deserted in park and theatre for shameless jades. We must not be surprised at their picking up slang from their brothers, and becoming "fast," in order to compete with them. In spite of these changes, we still hope; and our hopes are founded on the apparently unlimited supply of fresh babies. Where there is a baby, there will be at least one, probably many real true women about it. Now your baby is a thing that, like Tom Pinch's beef-steak, "must be humoured—not drove." It will express its likes and dislikes (possibly a little too loudly and persistently). It will prefer the apparently idiotic croodling of its mother and nurse, and their aimless legends, to the choicest lecture on Micaceous Schist, and a picture-book to a working model of a drain-valve. The one great source of happiness to a right-minded baby is its power of simple, trusting appreciation. It does not dismiss a new bit of wonderment because it does not understand it, or see its immediate use. It only knows that the thing has caused a pleasurable stirring amongst the fibres of its brain, causing it to stare, laugh, or crow, as the case may be, and is content. Possibly, this first form of brain-work, this simple

wondering, acts as a sort of mental kneading and turning over of the brain-matter, and prepares it for the next child's faculty, that of imagination, or "make-believe." To make good bread you must have plenty of carbonic acid; and, to make good brains, you must have plenty of imagination, to swell the mass into crispy, fun-loving lightness—a good spongy state for the sucking up of information hereafter. If you will put in the alum and burnt bones of useful information too early, most assuredly will your brain come out a poor heavy thing, with white chalky unbaked lumps here and there—the sources of unnumbered miseries, physical and moral. Luckily for them and us, they will have picture-books and fairy tales, these young people, or they make our lives a burden to us; and so they create a supply which ought earn the eternal gratitude of their elders, who like to read the books, but are shy of buying them openly and palpably for themselves. Yes! there is still hope for future generations! Aroint ye! oh ye professors; your days of tyranny over early childhood are not yet utterly come! Aroint ye all—with the exception of him, one of the greatest and wisest of you all, who is ever ready to descend from his height to burn unlimited oxygen gas, and scintillate galvanic charcoal, before jubilant infancy, and a few of his wise school. The fairies are not yet driven from the field; and, though ye be scientific, mustard shall be hot in the mouth, and Red Riding-Hood shall be read!

By the bye, who has seen Goody Two-shoes lately? I much fear me that, being a prim and precise young person, she has married some goodlooking ne'er-do-weel, and keeps a small greengrocery, whereof he drinks the profits, and beats her. And tell me, too, my dear Red Riding-Hood (so glad that you speak just as you used to), tell me where you have picked up all your French and German? I don't want to scold. I know that the purchase of keys, without the slightest idea of unlocking anything with them, is the proper thing nowadays; but are you quite sure about those French fairies? Don't you think that they are too old and big—six years old, and three feet high—and know the world, and powder their hair, and wear crinoline, just like little Frenchwomen? There may be a few good fairy families left in Brittany; but I doubt the others, though I acknowledge that those who live with you in your new green-house are charming. I am not quite sure about the German fairies either. I know that the old German fairy is of excellent family; but they have become terribly mixed up with a very commonplace, charcoal-burning, turnip-counting set of folks. These Trolls, and Gnomes, and Wichtelmänner—not to mention those odd people, the Alraunchen, who are always trying to hide their yellow-webbed feet under their long cloaks—are not at all the sort of people William Shakespeare was acquainted with. Poor Heinrich Heine, who knew them better than anyone since Shakespeare, told them of this long ago; but I am sorry to say that they made impertinent replies, and bothered him with counter questions, worse than the Zulu did Bishop Colenso. In point of fact, I suspect that these good folks were little better than common mortals, stout and strong, but grubby and short—very sharp, but very spiteful. They had lived so long in the land that they had done all the good they were capable of doing, and had grown smaller and smaller, and crosser and crosser, till strong men, with light hair and blue eyes, came and kicked them, and pummelled them, and poked down their dry-stone forts with their walking-sticks, and, worse than all, cultivated the soil—which they never thought of doing for themselves, but lived on periwinkles and red-deer and heather-beer. So the small people hid themselves in holes and corners like the Bushmen; and the consciousness of what a poor little crooked people they were made them more spiteful; and they stole babies, not to harm them, but to spite the new people, and perhaps in the hope that their own changelings would be better taught

and nourished. They were not altogether bad; they felt kindness, and worked in an odd, jerky way for those who were kind to them and did not watch them—which they hated, knowing their ugliness. And they made them swords, for they were the grandfathers of the Smiths with an i, and knew all about iron, long before other people had left off using bronze swords that curled up like boiled macaroni whenever they hit anything harder than a workhouse-porter's heart. And they told them of heaps of red gold and gems, that had been buried by wild sea-rovers, who had sailed away and never come back again, which they had found as they crawled after the red-deer on the brown moor.

That naughty Frau Venus, and that ancient impostor Virgilius—who were, I suspect, invented by the monks—have also muddled the bright stream of German fairy lore. Nor do I like the admixture of old Scandinavian gods and goddesses—particularly those terrible sisters with the swans' feet, who have sometimes passed themselves off as real fairies, even in Scotland. Most particularly do I dislike that Frau Berchta, who has sometimes pretended to be Queen of the Fairies—a dreadful person, who looks very nice in front, but who, when looked at from behind, is as hollow as an empty coffin with the lid off. If you laugh at her, and do not give her herrings and oatmeal on the night of her festival, she will cut you open, stuff you with sharp whinstones and furze-bushes, and sew you up again, with a ploughshare for a needle and a jack-chain for thread—an operation which you will remember for some time, I assure you, though you may pretend it is only the nightmare, and send for the doctor. She is a very odd personage this "Frau Berchta with the swan's foot." There was once a young woman who lost her only child, and cried after it day and night. One night, in particular, she went to the little grave and wept over it till it might have moved a heart of stone. It was the night before the three kings' feast; and she saw Frau Berchta pass along with a long train of children; and they all floated over a high hedge—all except one, whose little white shift clung around her, all wet with the splashing of a great jug she carried. She was so tired that she could not rise from the ground. The poor mother saw that it was her own child, and raised it up in her arms to help it over; and the little one said, "Oh! how warm, how warm are mother's hands! But you must not weep so much for me; every tear you shed falls into my jug, and makes it heavier and heavier; and I shall never go up high with the rest." And so the poor mother wept no more.

This, however, is Mythology, not Faerie; and, if you had believed in it in the good old time, when a fatherly Pope, in the plenitude of his benevolence, placed a bull "Concerning the Burning of Heretics" in the ready hands of Jesuits, Bodin and Sprenger, you would have smarted for it. It is odd; but it seems as if the religion of one age became the fairy story of the next.

For our last collection of Fairy Tales we are indebted to one to whom we already owe much as a bringer of pure and happy thoughts. Abjuring all idea of giving information, and leaving her readers to find their own moral, she has given us the loves of our childhood, some of them in their own old dress and speech, and others—if we are not mistaken—embellished with many a light and telling touch. A book of gold and green to take away by oneself amongst the long grass in the quiet orchard, with the bees scattering the white and red apple-blossoms on our heads! A book to dream over—from the lovely lady who lies with her eyes trembling to open at the nearing kiss which is to awaken her to life and love, to the story of Clever Susan, which they tell to this day amongst the wild grey rocks and silver lakes of Assynt! A book of dainty little pictures, to be pored over by bright little eyes, and just the size to be held between the fat little dimpled fingers, without fatigue, for a long and happy hour!

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"THE BRIGANTINE."

The Brigantine. (Bentley.)

THERE must be some cause to explain the existence of such a novel as the "Brigantine." We have read a good many dull novels, a considerable number of improbable stories, and a still larger amount of twaddling ones; but, in each of these respects, the "Brigantine" appears to us to have an inglorious pre-eminence over the rest of its class. It is a story of life in Burmah. It might equally well be life in Timbuctoo, or New South Wales, or the moon itself, for all resemblance that it bears to any possible phase of human existence. Perhaps the author has been in Burmah. If so, no traveller ever used his opportunities to less advantage, or brought back less valuable information from a strange country. Anybody, however, who had never been further from London than Hampstead Hill, and who had read through the article Burmah in an average cyclopædia, could have written a better account of the Burmese manners and customs and scenery. Indeed, there is a cockney twang about the sentiments of our author's Asiatics which inclines us to suspect that the models who sat for them have been reared and bred within the sound of Bow Bells.

The story, such as it is, may be told briefly enough. Captain Harry Grasper, the Commander of the "Saucy Jane," is a bold buccaneer. He is a cross between the Corsair and a maritime Guy Livingstone, "a man of strong passions, with an inordinate love of wealth, to which he bows like a slave." This love of wealth leads him to desert his stately castle on the shores of Ireland in order to pursue the profession of a pirate. Having got into trouble with the revenue officers, he sails for eastern seas, takes part in a war between the Siamese and the men of Burmah, and, at the commencement of the story, is more or less in the service of Shembuan, the Bo of Ummoora Poora, the capital of Burmah. The "Saucy Jane" is stationed at Rangoon, on the Irawaddy river—the names give what the French call a "*couleur locale*"—and at Rangoon the actors of the "Brigantine" are found assembled. Monchaboo is a wealthy merchant of the place, with an only daughter, Domea. Aungua is a gallant young grenadier in the Burmese army, who loves—and is loved by—Domea. Unfortunately, the officer is poor, and what is still more discreditable, he is a convert to Christianity. The cruel parent wants to marry his child to the wicked Munris Maywoon, and resolves to put young Aungua out of the way. Domea, of course, under the guidance of Momien—a converted Buddhist, who has travelled through the world and learned the truths of Christianity—has adopted the faith of her future husband. When the action opens, this trio are about to elope from Burmah. Domea has some scruples about leaving her father unconverted, and Aungua does not exactly like the notion of deserting the service on the eve of a war. However, Momien smoothes away their scruples, and all is arranged for the exodus. It will be gratifying to the reader to learn that, before starting, Aungua and Domea were by Momien's wish to be formally joined in holy wedlock, so that no breath of suspicion should rest on Miss Monchaboo's good character. "Marriage," the priest says, "is an ordination of God, and it consists of the uniting of heart and mind in holy ties of love. To preserve purity and order in our notions, the laws of the land require that such inward marriages shall be confirmed by outward ceremonies, and such a law is beneficial and necessary." It seems, according to the law of Burmah—*Auctore Momien*—the sanction of the bride's parents is the one essential condition for a legal marriage. This could not be got in the present instance; but Momien considers the difficulty may be evaded, as he is "Domea's father in the Lord," and, as such, gives his consent to her union with Aungua. Everything is arranged; but, in Burmah, as well as in England, the course of true love never runs smooth.

Monchaboo has a brother, Symoo Seredan, a high-priest of Buddha at the shrine of Shoodagon. This ecclesiastic is an ardent believer in his faith, and seconds his brother's schemes with the view of winning back Aungua and Domea from the wiles of Christianity. By the agency of Koonah, who is a Phongis, or deacon in the Burmese Church, Captain Grasper is induced to kidnap Aungua on the eve of his departure, and hand him over to the Seredan, who confines him in a loathsome dungeon. This same Phongis—who is the villain of the story—persuades the Captain of the "Saucy Jane" to rob Monchaboo's house; and, accidentally,—this not being a part of the programme—the old gentleman gets killed by the buccaneer. So far good. Symoo Seredan, however, resolves to carry out his deceased brother's views, and favours the suit of Munris Maywoon. In order to thwart the influence of Momien, this Burmese Don Juan carries off Domea and her maid, and keeps her secluded in a mountain-village of Arracan, "at the foot of the towering range of Yumadong." Meanwhile, Aungua resists the persuasions and threats of the Seredan, and is faithful to his creed. For this heroism he is about to be confined in a black-hole for life, when, happily, deliverance comes. Koonah is detected in some act of villainy, and, in consequence, is disgraced from the priesthood. He swears vengeance on Seredan, tells Grasper that his quondam prisoner is undergoing an awful punishment, and gets him to storm the temple and rescue Aungua. The pirate and the young Burmese officer become fast friends—Grasper having the grace, out of regard to the Christian character of Aungua, to conceal his real trade—and set out on an expedition to deliver Domea. To put the reader out of excitement, we will say at once that Domea is duly rescued; and, having fallen by some chance into the hands of a friend of Aungua, has been preserved from any injury, physical or other. So the marriage-service is duly performed, and true love meets its reward at last. Meanwhile, Koonah, out of revenge, kills Seredan, and, in consequence, is publicly stamped to death by a white elephant. In the Arracan expedition Captain Grasper gets wounded, and, while in a state of sickness, is half converted by the teaching of Momien. Still, his conversion is incomplete. He goes back to Ireland to spend his life decorously as a country gentleman. There he finds that his brother-in-law has spread a report of his death, and seized the property. When he presents himself, his unkind relative, Mr. Laury, threatens to give him up to justice as a pirate and freebooter if he does not make himself scarce. In retribution, he burns down his own castle, and takes to the sea afresh. He is shipwrecked somewhere in the neighbourhood of Arracan, and finds Mr. and Mrs. Aungua settled in domestic bliss on the broad Soungavi. He happens to drop in upon his former friend just in time to save his life; and this new tie induces him to forsake his roving career. A little colony is formed of Grasper, his mate and boatswain, Aungua, his friend the Tiger of Yumadong, and Domea, with her lady's maid; and this band of choice spirits embrace Christianity, support themselves by hunting, and live happily ever afterwards. And so ends the story. If the reader is not satisfied with the wild and startling adventures, of which we have given the faintest outline, but which crop up as thick as blackberries in every portion of these volumes, his literary appetite must be stronger than our own.

What adds to the charm of this tale of thrilling adventure is, that not one single personage in it has the slightest resemblance to a human being. The pirate-captain vindicates his claim to a nautical character by always saying "Strand me!" on every possible occasion. Aungua, in prison, lectures the haughty Seredan in language which would become Mr. Spurgeon's pulpit, and trounces the bigoted Buddhist soundly for his unbelief. The Tiger of Yumadong addresses Captain

Grasper on his first acquaintance with these words:—

Brave stranger, this was a timely recognition, or your strong arm would have deprived me of life. Come with us to my dwelling; your bold followers shall be well looked after.

Really, a pirate at the Britannia, Hoxton, could hardly use language more dignified or more appropriate. Momien, too, twaddles inconceivably; but we are glad to say that his Christianity is of the most correct evangelical cast. Let the reader ponder on this scrap of conversation between the priest and the still unregenerate buccaneer:—

"I have never travelled so far as your native land, good Captain," answered Momien; "but have been among people like them, in a certain degree—with the same religion I mean—but I have seen them bowing to idols."

"Oh! I see who you mean," replied Grasper, getting interested in the subject. "Yes; these are Roman Catholics. They worship images, so I have heard, and sometimes the old bones of those who have slipped their cables; and I don't know but what they do a bit of the sort before the Pope, too."

"I have heard of them, Captain; and although I think *even there* may be some true hearts, yet it is to me one of Satan's masterpieces of gilded traps for souls. But what makes you think they adore the Pope?"

"Well, I don't know, Momien, unless it is because they pay him more respect than—than—somebody else."

A pirate, whose views were so orthodox on doctrinal points, was quite certain to die an exemplary Christian!

SEVEN GENERATIONS OF HANGMEN.

Sept Générations d'Exécuteurs, 1688-1847. Mémoires des Sanson; mis en ordre, rédigés et publiés par H. Sanson, ancien exécuteur des hautes œuvres de la cour de Paris. Four Vols. (Paris: Dupray de la Mahérie; London: Dolan & Co.)

IT is somewhat characteristic of modern Gauls that among them the hangman has always been a gentleman. The grim functionary of the law, whose existence we in this country admit as useful, though not by any means as ornamental, has been for centuries in France treated as a highly respectable personage, surrounded with all manner of dignities, and paid on a scale becoming a *grand seigneur*. By an ancient act of parliament it was forbidden to address him otherwise than under the title of "*exécuteur des hautes œuvres*" or, with a variation, "*exécuteur des jugements criminels*;" and, by another ordinance of the legislature, the dignitary who filled the post in the French metropolis had a particular tax, called "*droit de navage*," assigned to him for income, which amounted on the average to above 30,000 francs, or more than £1200 a-year. Besides this splendid salary, the Paris hangman was in receipt of numerous fees, and an extra fixed pay of 2000 ducats for the keep of assistants and of "tools." The *droit de navage* was levied on eatables entering the city of Paris, and varied with the price of the same; and, the higher the cost of food, the better was the income of the esteemed functionary of "*hautes œuvres*." To fill the cup of honours set apart for the dignified carnifex of the French metropolis, he and his family had a place of sepulture of their own in the fashionable church of St. Laurent, and, during lifetime, a fine residence in the Rue Beauregard. The social status, in life and death, of the French functionary of "high works," altogether formed an immense contrast to that of his brother *employé* in this country, with his famous thirteenth penny for "hangman's wages."

The honoured and lucrative position of "*exécuteur des hautes œuvres*," like many other dignified and well-paid situations, became hereditary in France at an early period. During the reign of Marie de Medicis, a countryman of the princess, one Sansoni, managed to get appointed to the place at the Court of Justice of Rouen, owing to the double merit of his origin and of his matri-

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monial alliance with the fair daughter of his predecessor; and, a vacancy occurring before long at Paris, he was preferred to the latter city, where he settled in great comfort, becoming the ancestor of seven generations of hangmen. The ambitious house of Sansoni soon after dropped the Italian vowel at the end of the name, and became Sanson, adopting at the same time a coat of arms, consisting of a broken bell on a starry shield, with the inscription "*Sans son*." Sanson I. did not come to be of much consequence in the world; but Sanson II. studied anatomy, and acquired the reputation of a *savant*; Sanson III. married a fine lady, and became the father of a numerous progeny, who settled as gentlemen-*exécuteurs* at Tours, Provins, Rheims, and other French towns; Sanson IV. was a doctor and philanthropist; and Sanson V., Charles Henry, the greatest of the race, had for private tutor the learned Abbé Grisel, became an accomplished musician, assisted his friend Dr. Guillotin in the invention of his celebrated machine, and, having placed the head of Louis XVI. under it, died of grief six months after. Sanson VI. did the rest of the business of the Revolution; then rose to be one of the notabilities of Paris; was visited by crowds of English lords and ladies; dined at one and the same time with M. Appert, Alexander Dumas, Lord Durham, Mr. Bowring, Balzac, Fourier, Lord Ellice, and an *incognita* duchess; and, at the end of a long and prosperous career, left, in 1840, the seals of office to his son, Sanson VII., who in a few years lost his place, and, having retired to a charming country-seat, took to composing the annals of his family, the "*Seven Generations of Hangmen*." French memoir-writing culminates in these four portentous volumes.

The work appears to be a compilation of some authors of the sensational school, who have ransacked and copied Pitaval, and other collections of *causes célèbres*, and then got the last of the Seven Generations to put his name on the title-page. Mixed with the history of the "*exécuteurs des hautes œuvres*" is an immense quantity of romance—not to give it a harder name—the character and style of which points to the literary factory of Dumas and Co. However, the work on the whole is an improvement upon the spurious "*Memoirs of Sanson*," in two volumes, which appeared in 1830, and the authorship of which is attributed to M. L'Héritier de l'Ain. In the new "*Memoirs*" a good quantity of matter has evidently been drawn from historical records somewhat above the standard of newspaper gossip, or of M. de Lamartine's fantastic "*Histoire des Girondins*." The period of the Revolution, in particular, is well told; and, though a goodly quantity of popular fiction, deeply ingrained into French minds—such as the famous exclamation attributed to the Abbé Edgeworth, at the death of Louis XVI., "*Son of St. Louis, mount to heaven*"—has been retained, the story is worth reading, if only as a companion-picture to the historical novels of the French writers of the Lamartine school. One of the most interesting chapters in the "*Memoirs*" is the tale of the invention of the Guillotine, given with much circumstantial detail, differing in many respects from the current accounts. For some years previous to the revolution Dr. Guillotin, a philanthropist of singular perseverance, was devoted to the task of ameliorating the pains and penalties of the law, so as to deprive them of their ancient barbarous character. In the National Assembly of December 1st, 1789, an eloquent speech on his part brought forth the decree that all punishments should be for the future alike for the same crime, without consideration of the rank of the criminal; and three months after another law was passed, to the effect that the gallows should be abolished, as a degrading penalty, and death inflicted, in all cases, by decapitation. At this stage of his reformatory process, Dr. Guillotin found himself in collision with the interests of Charles Henry Sanson, the influential "*exécuteur des hautes œuvres*." A man of superior education, but not great muscular strength, Sanson trembled at the idea of

using the sword instead of the simpler rope, and he implored Dr. Guillotin either to retain the latter form of execution, or to adopt the still older machinery for inflicting death, called the Maiden. The philanthropic Doctor readily fell in with these views; and, as a next step, Sanson and he procured themselves from the royal library a large number of ancient books containing descriptions and illustrations of the *Mannaia*, or Maiden, as used in Persia, in various parts of Italy during the Middle Ages, at Toulouse, in the execution of Marshal de Montmorency, and at an earlier period even in some districts of Scotland. The sketches of machinery, however, did not fully satisfy either Dr. Guillotin or his friend, the mode of giving death appearing in all instances not sufficiently easy and certain. Sanson now kept brooding over his subject day and night, and finally confided his thoughts and cares to a musical acquaintance, a young German named Schmidt, a mechanic by trade. Herr Schmidt and Sanson were in the habit of playing together on the clavichord and violin, being both impassioned admirers of Gluck and never tired of rehearsing his symphonies; and one day, while so engaged, the young German suddenly stopped, and, addressing his friend, exclaimed, "I have got what you want." Taking up a pen, he rapidly drew a few lines on paper, representing a concave sword hanging between two poles, with a movable board beneath, to which was tied the body of a man in a horizontal position. The delighted Sanson, almost beside himself for joy, threw down his fiddle, and cried "Eureka!" The genius of the musical young German had been inspired with the idea of the Guillotine.

In the sitting of the National Assembly of April 31, 1791, Dr. Guillotin gave an account of the new invention, and, in an impassioned speech, implored the representatives of the people to adopt it at once. Carried away by his own enthusiasm, the worthy Doctor went so far as to praise his machine, as not only doing away with all suffering, but causing actually a pleasant sensation. The "patient," he said, really did not feel the slightest inconvenience, but merely "*une légère fraîcheur sur le cou*." The phrase caused some hilarity; and, when the doctor continued, "*avec cette machine je vous fais sauter la tête d'un clin d'œil, et vous ne souffrez point*," the whole assembly broke out into Homeric laughter. After having somewhat recovered the necessary legislative gravity, they resolved to demand a report upon the subject from the College of Surgeons; which body, after deliberation, deputed the task to its secretary, Dr. Anthony Louis, who happened to be also private physician to the king. Fond of all sorts of mechanical contrivances, his majesty had no sooner heard of the new machine than he desired to see a design of it. He accordingly ordered Dr. Anthony Louis to summon M. Guillotin to the Tuileries, together with Charles Henry Sanson, to give the necessary explanations, it being understood by M. Guillotin that the presence of his majesty should be looked upon as entirely *incognito*. The interview, which took place on the 2nd of March, 1792, is described as follows in the "*Memoirs*":—

The palace of the Tuileries looked already like the tomb of an expiring monarchy. In walking with Dr. Guillotin along the vast galleries, formerly filled with smiling courtiers, but now empty and silent, Charles Henry Sanson felt overcome by a sudden presentiment of evil. The servants whom they met looked pale and careworn; sorrow was impressed on every face. Thus they arrived at the study of Dr. Louis, whom they found sitting in an arm-chair, in front of a large table covered with green velvet fringed with gold. After a few compliments, exchanged between the two physicians, Dr. Louis demanded to see the plan of the new machine, and Guillotin handed him the design of Herr Schmidt, to which my grandfather had added a short description, indicating the use of the different parts by letters. While they were engaged in examining it, a door, hidden under tapestry, opened at the other side of the apartment, and a new comer entered the room. Dr. Louis, who had sat till this moment, quickly

arose, and Dr. Guillotin made a profound bow, which, however, was not acknowledged by the stranger. The latter, addressing Dr. Louis, asked in a rapid mode of speech—

"Eh bien, doctor, what do you think of the machine?"

"It seems very complete," replied the doctor, "and to justify all that M. Guillotin has said about it. Here is the design."

The stranger examined the sketch for a moment, and then, shaking his head, exclaimed—

"But are you sure that this hollow knife is really what is wanted? How can a sword thus shaped adapt itself to all necks? The circle appears to be much too small for some, much too large for others."

There was a momentary silence. From the commencement of the entrance of the stranger into the room, Charles Henry Sanson had not taken his eyes from him. He had heard the sound of that voice before, and seen that face, and it flashed upon him on a sudden that it was the king. It was, indeed, Louis XVI., in dark dress, with no signs of his august rank on his person. When his majesty made the observation about the concavity of the falling sword, my grandfather was struck with the truth of the remark. Involuntarily he lifted his eyes to the neck of the king, covered only by a thin lace collar, and saw at a glance that it was of extraordinary large dimensions, surpassing by far the diameter of the circle indicated by Schmidt. A cold shudder ran over him; and, while still meditating within himself, he was aroused by the voice of the king, who, pointing to him by a look, asked the doctor in an under tone—

"Is that the man?"

"It is," replied Anthony Louis.

"Ask his opinion," exclaimed his majesty.

"You have heard the remark of monsieur?" said the physician; "please give us your opinion on the shape of the instrument."

"Monsieur is perfectly right," answered Sanson, laying stress upon the word monsieur; "the concave form of the knife seems a real defect."

The king smiled, being evidently pleased, and, taking up a pen, corrected the sketch, by altering the concave into an oblique line. He then retired through the door where he had entered, making a slight sign with his hand.

In little more than ten months after, on the 21st of January of the following year, the head of Louis XVI. fell under the very instrument of death approved of and corrected by his majesty. The story is a very singular one—if true. As already said, facts and fiction are so curiously mixed in these four volumes of French memoirs, that it is difficult to say where the former cease and the latter begin in the tale of the "*Seven Generations of Hangmen*."

PROFESSOR STANLEY ON SUBSCRIPTION.

A Letter to the Lord Bishop of London on the State of Subscription in the Church of England and in the University of Oxford. By A. P. Stanley, D.D., Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History, and Canon of Christ Church, Oxford; Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of London. (J. H. and J. Parker.)

THIS excellent pamphlet will serve the purpose of a manual upon the subject of which it treats. It is a subject on which exact information is much needed, and on which it may easily be given. The question of subscription really lies within a small compass; and Dr. Stanley's pamphlet brings together all the facts which are necessary to enable the reader to form a judgment upon it. From the letter itself, or from the appendices, we learn what subscriptions are now required from clergymen or from Oxford Masters of Arts; under what ecclesiastical obligations they would still lie if subscription were abolished; what changes in existing laws would suffice for the repeal of subscription; what subscriptions are demanded in other communions or societies; and to what historical causes the growth of subscription has been due. This information is worked up into an argument which is characterized, as might be expected, by vivacity, by an abundance of apt illustration, and by a liberal and generous temper.

The history of subscription is a sort of by-way of Ecclesiastical History which it is

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by no means agreeable, especially for Protestants, to trace. When once the enforcement of subscription has begun, it has had a tendency to run to absurd and self-destructive extremes. "The most stringent and elaborate subscription probably ever enforced," says Dr. Stanley, "was that in the Duchy of Brunswick, when Duke Julius required from all clergy, from all professors, from all magistrates, a subscription to all and everything contained in the Confession of Augsburg, in the Apology for the Confession, in the Smalcaldic Articles, in all the works of Luther, and in all the works of Chemnitz." (p. 37.) "Amongst the Wesleyans, previously to ordination, subscription is required to a declaration expressing the candidate's assent to the system of doctrine contained in Mr. Wesley's Sermons, Fletcher's 'Checks to Antinomianism,' and the Larger Minutes." (p. 96.) The Church of England only requires this kind of assent to the Thirty-nine Articles and the Book of Common Prayer. Dr. Stanley points out forcibly how valuable the conjunction of these two authorities has been in securing the comprehensiveness of the English Church. But, then, as he contends, the benefit thus gained almost proves of itself the absurdity of requiring that absolute and minute agreement with every clause in these two documents which the terms of the subscriptions express. Indeed, the uselessness of subscription for any good purpose has been apparent from the first. Bishop Burnet expresses the sensible view of the matter as well as it could be expressed now. "The requiring subscription to the Thirty-nine Articles is a great imposition: I believe them all myself; but, as there are some which might be expressed more unexceptionably, so I think it a better way to let such matters continue to be still the standard of doctrine, and to censure those who teach any contrary tenets, than to oblige all who serve in the Church to subscribe them. The greater part subscribe without ever examining them, and others do it because they must do it, though they can hardly satisfy their consciences about some things in them. Churches and societies are much better secured by laws than by subscriptions: it is a more reasonable as well as a more easy mode of government" (quoted by Dr. Stanley, p. 7). How entirely the securing of the Church from false doctrine—so far as this security can be obtained by any human provision—is due at the present time to "laws," and not to "subscriptions," was shown in a recent article* in this journal. Dr. Stanley reminds us how every theological movement in the Church has evaded the stringency of subscription; how utterly powerless subscription has been in accomplishing its professed object, that of securing uniformity of opinion in the Church. Extreme doctrines have been shut out from the Church of England only when the discrepancy between them and the formularies and prevailing belief of the Church has become intolerable to those who have professed them.

If it be asked what new arguments Dr. Stanley and those whom he represents have to urge in behalf of the repeal of subscription, there appear to be three which belong especially to the present time. (1.) The first is, that there are signs of a growing reluctance, due in some part to the stringency of present subscriptions, on the part of thoughtful young men to enter the ministry of the Church. (2.) There is some recent evidence, especially at the Universities, that the abolition of subscription has not tended to the injury of the Church or to any increased disbelief of her doctrines. (3.) But, more especially, there is a growing disposition to interpret adhesion to formularies more narrowly than in former times. It would be an interesting question whether this, on the whole, should be considered an advantage or the contrary. So far as it is due to an enhanced sensitiveness of the public conscience, we ought to be thankful for it. But a narrow literalism is a very bad method in

theology. It is entirely unsuited to the mode of expression which has prevailed in the greater ages of the Church, and must tend to make the language of past generations distasteful and unavailable to the present. We ought, therefore, to be watchfully on our guard against allowing such a character to grow unawares upon our interpretation of Church formularies. But, in any case, the tendency thus observed remains an equally strong argument against a too exacting and oppressive system of subscriptions.

J. LL. D.

DR. TYNDALL ON HEAT.

Heat considered as a Mode of Motion. By John Tyndall, F.R.S., &c. (Longman & Co.)

AMONG the most important and fundamental of the ideas which are embraced by modern science are those which cluster round the phrase, *the conservation of force*. The leading idea which this phrase includes is expressed in the statement that the amount of force existing in the universe is fixed and definite. If this be admitted, it follows that the creation of force by human agency is as impossible as the creation or destruction of matter itself. Whenever force, as manifested in any one particular form—whether, for instance, in that of heat, magnetism, or electricity—seems to disappear, it is not annihilated, but is, in reality, transformed into another equivalent amount of force, manifested in some other form.

Amongst the most legitimate and necessary deductions from this principle is the one which leads the philosopher to regard heat as being in its essence but a mode of motion—the theme which Dr. Tyndall has chosen for discussion in the volume the title of which stands at the head of this article. He has systematically applied a large number of the ideas involved in this view of the nature of heat to the explanation of various phenomena produced by this agent, under circumstances more or less familiar, and has illustrated them by a great variety of experiments, many of which are new and original.

The opinion that heat is but a mode of motion, though urged by Bacon, and distinctly enunciated by Locke, was first subjected to direct experiment by Rumford, and maintained by Davy. This view they held in opposition to the prevalent doctrine that heat was an extremely subtle material agent, which, without adding to the weight of the grosser forms of matter, yet entered into fleeting combination with them, whether they were in the condition of solid, liquid, or gas. On this view, it was supposed that by this transient combination were produced those modifications of temperature and changes of physical form which increase or diminution in the amount of heat, when applied to bodies, was known to occasion.

The experiments of Rumford and Davy are striking; but the conclusions which they drew from them have only imperfectly been admitted by scientific men up to within recent times, when Séguin and Mayer resumed their discussion. To Joule, however, science is indebted for the establishment, by multiplied and careful experiment, of the data on which the number now admitted as the mechanical equivalent of heat rests; and to him we mainly owe the impulse to the theoretical and mathematical investigations of the subject by Clausius, Helmholtz, Holtzmann, Rankine, Thomson, and others.

In the establishment of almost every fundamental doctrine in science many minds are concerned, and it is always a difficult task to adjust fairly the amount of credit due to each. This is particularly the case in comparing those who have started the idea in a speculative way with those whose experimental skill has placed it upon a secure basis; and the history of the development of the newer doctrine of the mechanical nature of heat furnishes no exemption from this difficulty. Dr. Tyndall incidentally touches upon the historical development of the idea that heat is a mode of motion, but he does

not profess to write its history; and if he has given forcible and perhaps exaggerated prominence to the share due to Mayer, he appears to have been impelled to this course from a feeling that the real merit of the German philosopher has scarcely been recognised, especially among his own countrymen.

Dr. Tyndall's book consists of a republication of a course of twelve lectures, delivered at the Royal Institution in the spring of last year, with additional notes and illustrations introduced after each lecture. The objects and scope of his work will be best understood by the following extract from his preface:—

The first seven lectures of the course deal with *thermometric heat*; its generation and consumption in mechanical processes; the determination of the mechanical equivalent of heat; the conception of heat as molecular motion; the application of this conception to the solid, liquid, and gaseous forms of matter, to expansion and combustion, to specific and latent heat, and to calorific conduction.

The remaining five lectures treat of *radiant heat*; the interstellar medium, and the propagation of motion through this medium; the relations of radiant heat to ordinary matter in its several states of aggregation; terrestrial, lunar, and solar radiation; the constitution of the sun; the possible sources of his energy; the relation of this energy to terrestrial forces, and to vegetable and animal life.

In the course of the work are embodied the author's own researches upon Trevelyan's experiment upon the sound produced by the contact of bodies of different temperatures, on the structure of ice, on regelation, and on the motion of glaciers. In addition to these, he has also given his experiments upon the conduction of heat in organic structures, upon singing flames, together with his latest enquiries upon the radiation of heat by gases and vapours, and the absorbent power of these bodies upon radiant heat.

As the object of Dr. Tyndall was to demonstrate experimentally to a numerous audience phenomena many of which are attended with but small differences of temperature, he has, in his descriptions, to a large extent superseded the ordinary thermometer, and arranged his experiments in such a manner as to make use of the thermo-electric pile and galvanometer, which are well adapted to render evident a rise or fall of temperature of very small amount. He has also availed himself largely of the powerful illumination afforded by the electric lamp, for the purpose of manifesting molecular changes. He has, for instance, by applying it in the exhibition of the figures developed by heat in a block of ice, and in the ascending and descending currents produced by heat in liquids, been enabled to render visible to the most distant of the audience some of the delicate changes produced by heat upon internal structure. Many other of his ingenious contrivances will be best appreciated by those who are engaged in the duties of the lecture-room, and in the attempt to impart to others a knowledge of scientific principles in their simplest forms.

No one can read Dr. Tyndall's book without being impressed with the intensity of the author's conviction of the truth of the theory which it is his object to illustrate, or with the boldness with which he confronts, even if he does not explain, the difficulties which he encounters. Take, for instance, the case of the anomalous expansion of water as it approaches the point of congelation. He is speaking of the exertion of force in the production of the atomic motion, supposed to occasion the phenomena of heat (p. 145):—

A pound of iron, on being heated from 32° to 212° F., expands by about $\frac{1}{1000}$ th of the volume which it possesses at 32°. Its augmentation of volume would certainly escape the most acute eye; still, to give its atoms the motion corresponding to this augmentation of temperature, and to shift them through the small space indicated, an amount of heat is requisite which would raise about eight tons one foot high. Gravity almost vanishes in comparison with these molecular forces; the pull of the earth upon a pound weight, as a mass, is as nothing compared with the mutual pull of its

* "Clerical Subscription," in THE READER of April 11th.

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own molecules. Water furnishes a still subtler example. Water expands on both sides of 4° C., or 39° F.; at 4° C. it has its maximum density. Suppose a pound of water heated from 3½° C. to 4½° C.—that is 1°—its volume at both temperatures is the same; there has been no forcing asunder whatever of the atomic centres, and still, though the volume is unchanged, an amount of heat has been imparted to the water, sufficient, if mechanically applied, to raise a weight of 1390lb. a foot high. The interior work done here by the heat can be nothing more than the turning round of the atoms of water. It separates the attracting poles of the atoms by a tangential movement, but leaves their centres at the same distance asunder first and last.

The words in italics are not so in the original—they show the intensity of the author's conviction.

In this passage, as in some other parts of the work—for example, in the explanation of Mayer's views upon the dynamical theory of heat—our author has used indifferently, and apparently without necessity the scale of Fahrenheit and the Centigrade scale of temperature. This introduces a certain degree of perplexity into the mind of the reader, which could easily have been avoided—a trifling blemish, but one which probably the author will think it right to amend when called upon for another edition of his work.

An admirable illustration of Dr. Tyndall's skill in elucidating by experiment, and of his felicity in description, is afforded by his account of the Great Geyser and of the Strokkur, given at pp. 119—126. We have only room to quote the concluding passage:—

A moment's reflection will suggest to us that there must be a limit to the operations of the geyser. When the tube has reached such an altitude that the water in the depths below, owing to the increased pressure, cannot attain its boiling point, the eruptions of necessity cease. The spring, however, continues to deposit its silica, and often forms a *Laug*, or cistern. Some of those in Iceland are forty feet deep. Their beauty, according to Bunsen, is indescribable; over the surface curls a light vapour, the water is of the purest azure, and tints with its lovely hue the fantastic incrustations on the cistern-walls, while at the bottom is often seen the mouth of the once mighty geyser. There are in Iceland traces of vast, but now extinct, geyser operations. Mounds are observed whose shafts are filled with rubbish, the water having forced a passage underneath and retired to other scenes of action. We have, in fact, the geyser in its youth, manhood, old age, and death, here presented to us. In its youth, as a simple thermal spring; in its manhood, as the eruptive column; in its old age, as the tranquil *Laug*; while its death is recorded by the ruined shaft and mound, which testify the fact of its once active existence.

Dr. Tyndall's is the first work in which the undulatory or mechanical theory of heat has been placed in a popular light; but we are sure that no one, however profound his knowledge upon the subject of which it treats, will rise from its perusal without a feeling that he has been both gratified and instructed in a high degree while reading its pages.

NOTICES.

AMONG new theological publications we note *Christianity and Common Sense*. By Sir Willoughby Jones, Bart., M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge. (Longmans. Pp. 234.)—THE author, in coming forward with this contribution to present theological controversy, "cannot plead," he says, any knowledge of the Hebrew tongue, and but little of German theology; but he has a strong opinion that no man ever yet saved his soul by believing falsehoods, and he therefore feels that a simple statement of the grounds of his belief in the inspired Scriptures, and of the reasons of his dissent from the new school of theology, may be useful to some readers, who, having neither the knowledge nor the time to test the assertions of these divines, yet know that, by God's grace, they have good grounds for refusing to assent to their conclusions." A work of a different kind from Sir Willoughby Jones's is, *The Types of Genesis*, by Andrew Jukes (Longmans, pp. 421), of which a second edition has just appeared. The author

believes that, over and above the plain or obvious meaning of Scripture, there is a mystic, typical, or allegorical meaning in every part, which may be evolved by study. He holds that every book of the Scriptures has its own especial end or typical purpose or teaching. The object of Genesis, he holds, "is to show us the outcome or development of Adam, or human nature—to trace all the different forms of life which, either by grace or nature, can grow out of the root of old Adam;" and the present volume is an exposition of the book throughout on this principle. *The Messianic Prophecies of Isaiah: the Donnellan Lecture for 1862*, by William De Burgh, D.D. (Dublin: Hodges and Smith, pp. 252), is a work consisting of nine lectures, each devoted to the interpretation of a particular passage in Isaiah, accepted as prophetic of the Messiah. A work somewhat peculiar in plan is *An Interpreting Concordance of the New Testament, showing the Greek original of every word; with a glossary explaining all the Greek words of the New Testament, and giving their varied renderings in the Authorised Version*. By the Rev. James Gall. (Edinburgh: Gall and Inglis. Pp. 368.)—THE purpose of the work is to facilitate for readers who are not Greek scholars a critical study of the text of the New Testament, by "enabling them to ascertain the true import of the words of the authorized version when the English language did not enable the translators sufficiently to define or express it." In the Concordance the student finds a list of all the passages in which any given English word appears in the authorized version, and at the head of the list the original Greek word printed in English characters. In the Glossary, on the other hand, he finds all the Greek words used in the original text of the New Testament, printed in English characters, and with their Dictionary meanings annexed. *The Ordinance of Preaching Investigated*, by the Rev. George Holden, M.A. (Rivingtons, pp. 139), is a little work, having for its object "to inquire into the ordinance of Preaching, according to the appointment of our Lord; to collect whatever can be found in the practice and teaching of the apostles to illustrate it; and thence to infer its true nature and importance." *Village Sermons*. By G. F. De Teissier, B.D., Rector of Brampton, near Northampton; late Fellow and Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. (Macmillan & Co. Pp. 378.)—This is a collection of fifty-four sermons, each about seven pages long. They seem true specimens of village sermons—the spirit fervent, and the language simple, strong, and direct, like that of a man of thorough culture speaking to be understood.

Exercises in Euclid and in Modern Geometry, for the use of Schools, Private Students, and Junior University Students. By J. McDowell, B.A., F.R.A.S., Pembroke College, Cambridge, and Trinity College, Dublin. (Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, and Co.; London: Bell and Daldy. Pp. 300.)—A COLLECTION of 280 propositions, investigated after the manner of Euclid—the propositions chosen both as being valuable as geometrical exercises, and as being often required in other branches of mathematics. The first half of the volume is confined to the ancient pure geometry; the remainder is devoted to the modern pure geometry. The author believes that the second part will be especially useful, and that an examination of it will show that it is not liable to the charge often brought against the methods of the modern pure geometry as being only semi-geometrical.

A Manual for Ladies, on Colour in Dress: Taste versus Fashionable Colour. By W. and G. Audsley. (Longmans. Pp. 51.)—THE authors of this little tract, architects in Liverpool, think that their experience in the harmony of colours may be of use in making our British ladies dress in better taste than many of them now do. They classify all ladies into the BLONDE TYPE and the BRUNETTE TYPE, subdivided respectively into the Fair Blonde and the Ruddy Blonde, and the Pale Brunette and the Ruddy Brunette; and they discuss the colours suitable for each type and subdivision, giving, moreover, a table of the chief natural harmonies of colours.

My Escape from Siberia. By Rufin Piotrowski. Translated, with the express sanction of the author, by E. S. (Routledge. Pp. 386.)—M. RUFIN PIOTROWSKI—an elderly gentleman, to judge by the portrait on the frontispiece, with high forehead, bald on the top, full beard, and determined aspect—has gone through a variety of extraordinary adventures, which were told to the public last year in the columns of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. A previous English translation of this tale appeared a short time ago in a some-

what smaller compass than the present one; but we doubt whether the increase of matter has been an improvement.

Who to Consult: or, a Book of Reference for Invalids, &c. (Aylott and Son. Pp. 110.)—THIS book, intended to be an annual publication, furnishes instruction to invalids as to the diseases they have or may have; gives lists of physicians, surgeons, &c., expert in particular diseases, and information as to fees, medical titles, &c. The author, a medical man employed by the publishers, does not give his name. He is aware that the title of his book is not strictly grammatical, but uses the common phrase "Who to Consult," because it is crisper than "Whom to Consult."

The Household Manager; being a Practical Treatise upon the various Duties in large or small Establishments. By Charles Pierce, *maitre d'hôtel*. Third Edition. (Simpkin and Marshall. Pp. 371.)—THE title of this work may mislead. Whoever thinks of "The Household Manager" as something between a cookery-book and a servant's guide, must ponder over the following weighty passage:—"Women never understood the kitchen better than in that epoch of their greatest power, the time of Louis XIV. Then they understood it in its physiology, in its morality, and in its politics. The immortal *côtelettes à la Maintenon* of the Queen-mistress of Louis XIV. were as much an expedient of the times as her Revocation of the Edict of Nantes; and her *dragées* and her *dragonnades* were alike directed to the service of her own unmeasured ambition. The best educated Englishwomen of the present day scarcely know the *matériel* of an *entrée*, or the elements which give character to an *entremet*, or can tell when an *hors d'œuvre* should come in, or a *pièce de résistance* should go out." Mr. Charles Pierce, it will be seen, is a philosophical writer, as well as a *maitre d'hôtel*.

The Life of Hugh Miller; a Sketch for Working Men. Second Edition. (S. W. Partridge. Pp. 128.)—A COMPILATION of the leading facts of Hugh Miller's Life from his own Autobiography, with scanty additions from other sources, bringing down the narrative to his death. The little book may be interesting to those who have no other means of knowing about Hugh Miller; but the best book about him is his own, "My Schools and Schoolmasters"—one of the most solid and delightful biographies in the language.

Richard Cobden, Roi des Belges. Par un Ex-colonel de la Garde civique. Second Edition. (Trübner & Co. Pp. 55.)—A SECOND edition of this caustic, clever, and witty, and at the same time learned and statesmanlike pamphlet, shows the influence it has exercised, both in this country and in Belgium. It is not generally known that under the "Ex-colonel of the Civic Guard," who figures on the title page, is hidden the pen of M. Sylvain van de Weyer, the representative of King Leopold in this country ever since his accession to the throne of Belgium.

Grammatologie Française. By M. Massé. (D. Nutt. Pp. 295.)—It contains a series of fifty introductory examination papers, with numerous extracts from the best English and French writers, and is to be recommended to all who wish to make rapid progress in their knowledge of French.

MAGAZINES AND SERIALS.

The New Review, of which the first number has just been published (Dublin: Hodges, Smith & Co.; London: Simpkin and Marshall. Pp. 160; price 2s. 6d.), may be described, in Irish phrase, as a quarterly to be published once a month. It is to eschew serial fiction, tales, poetry, and the lighter matter of magazines, and is to give articles, after the manner of the *Reviews*, on grave leading topics. It is to be eminently political; and in politics it is to be Conservative of a new school, but acknowledging the chiefship of Lord Derby. In the opening article in the present number, entitled "The Conservative Party," the speculation is that there is really very little difference at present between the Conservatives who follow Lord Derby and the Whigs who follow Lord Palmerston—that it is, nevertheless, Conservatism that the country really sympathises with and wishes to see holding office; and that, as Lord Palmerston and the Whigs are Conservatives, they ought to give up the name of Whigs, as the Tories gave up that of Tories, and join the ranks of the great Conservative party, who would receive them with open arms, thus forming a mass of Conservatism, whose true antagonist would be Radicalism. Something of the spirit of this article pervades the other articles of the number, which are mostly

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political, well up to the present moment, and written with a certain dash, though rather wordy.

The May number of the *Law Magazine and Law Review* (the quarterly organ of the legal profession) contains an article on the case of the "Alabama," in which it is argued that Earl Russell and our Government were not prompt or active enough in the case. "That a most unfortunate slip was made in the case of the Alabama," says the writer, "is widely admitted by well-informed persons whose speech is not moulded to official accents." Some general remarks are made by the writer in the course of his article on the necessity at the present day of wider notions of International Law than are inculcated in the older writers on the subject, who, "while theorists to their contemporaries, became, almost by the mere fact that they had written, authorities to their successors." Nations, through their statesmen, the writer seems to think, have still points of International Law to settle, unsettled by the Jurists.

The opening article in *Fraser*, entitled "The Future of the National Church," is a very able and important one. The writer starts with the assertion that, at the Reformation, the founders of the Protestant Church of England "regarded the Church as a common possession, or great organ of national unity and national education," and that, therefore, their question in settling the doctrinal foundations of the Church was not so much "What is true?" as "What is the great mass of the more intelligent ready to accept as true?" Proceeding on this principle, that "a national Church cannot have pure truth, but so much truth only as the nation is ripe to receive, or at least will not violently reject," the writer argues that it is in the very idea of the Church of England that she should from time to time enlarge her foundations, so as still—as the intelligence of the nation apprehends new truths—to keep pace with that intelligence, and not let any considerable portion of the religious national mind go beyond the bounds of her area. "To fix anything for ever in the State Church is as pernicious and absurd," he says, "as to do so in the State of which it is a part." Then, in a review of the history of the English Church during the last two centuries, he goes on to say that the clergy, as a body, seem to have lost all real hold of this notion of the nationalism of the Church, and that hence have arisen all those ruptures and secessions which have left the Church of England in possession only of a portion of the nation. He refers particularly to the oblivion of the principle of nationality shown at the last great settlement of the Church in 1662, just after the Restoration, and to the similar forgetfulness shown in permitting the secession of the Wesleyan Methodists. How he applies the principle to the present state of the Church may be inferred. Without distinctly stating whether he himself would prefer that the Church of England should enlarge her area so as to include all the religious of the land that have already gone, or are going, beyond her bounds, or that the process of separation and differentiation should go on till statesmen should be compelled to take cognisance of the fact that the State Church represented but a residuum of the nation, he solemnly warns the clergy that the former is what they ought to have at heart. He ends with a kind of prophecy that, should the present opportunity, in a time of political quiet, be lost for an enlargement of the basis of the Church, it is more than likely that, in the next period of political turmoil, an agitation will be begun for the disconnection of the Church from the State, and for the resumption of its revenues. Altogether, the article—written, we believe, by a man of great note—is calculated to make a strong impression. In the same number of *Fraser* there is a paper on "The Principles of Currency," by Mr. Bonamy Price; also, "A Day at Athens," by Miss Frances Power Cobbe; and a little essay on "Dante and Beatrice," by Mr. Matthew Arnold, in which it is contended that, if former critics have erred in making Dante's Beatrice merely an allegory, Mr. Theodore Martin has erred on the other side in seeing in Dante's representations of his Beatrice the mere story of a real earthly love.

In *Temple Bar* we have the month's instalments of Miss Braddon's "John Marchmont's Legacy" and the story called "The Trials of the Tredgolds," also "Osman and Amneh: a Tale of Cairo Life." The remaining contents consist of articles on Sir James Outram and Japan, some pieces of verse, and several essays. These last will attract most. One entitled "The Social Positions of Actors" is an indignant reply by Mr. Edward Yates to a recent article in the *Saturday Review*. Mr. Sala discourses his philosophy in

No. 8 of his "Breakfast in Bed" papers, and in a separate essay on "Shows," i. e., on public sights and gatherings which the author remembers.

St. James's Magazine contains fifteen articles, all short or shortish, all light or lightish, but none of them of a very arresting nature. Perhaps the most attractive, from the oddity of its subject, is one called "English Journalism in France," giving a comical account of the troubles an Englishman had to encounter in becoming proprietor and editor of an English journal in a French provincial town.

The Rose, the Shamrock, and the Thistle, a Shilling Monthly Magazine, printed and published in Edinburgh by "The Caledonian Press"—an institution for promoting the employment of women in the art of printing—reaches its thirteenth number, or the first number of the second year of its existence, in this month, just as the first number of the *Victoria* (also edited and printed by women) has made its appearance. The number opens with "A Word to the Three Kingdoms," proclaiming the fact; and it contains contributions by Archbishop Whately, Cuthbert Bede, Serjeant Burke, and Mr. J. O. Halliwell, as well as by some ladies. In Mr. Halliwell's contribution—which is No. 4 of a series of "Roundabout Papers on Stratford-on-Avon"—we find this: "The German critics, who write an incredible amount of æsthetic nonsense about Shakespeare, settle the whole matter (of Shakespeare's temperament and personal character) by the personal application of the Sonnets. Very like the dignity of Shakespeare's genius, indeed, to tell us all about himself in that way! You may depend upon it that he never was such a goose." If this is what Mr. Halliwell believes, we can only say that it is a proof how much a man may know all round about Shakespeare while knowing very little of him. Don't let the ladies, or the gentlemen either, trust Mr. Halliwell in this. Shakespeare was such a "goose" as to reveal a great deal about himself in his sonnets.

We have just received the first number of *The British American*: a monthly magazine devoted to literature, science, and art, published at Toronto. It contains fourteen articles, and the price is twenty-five cents. What promise there may be in this new Canadian magazine will appear more clearly when it is a few numbers old.

The third monthly part of Mr. Watts's great and elaborate *Dictionary of Chemistry* (London, Longmans) reaches from "Arsenic" to "Benzylamine." Among the most important and extensive articles in the part are those on the various Arsenides, the Atmosphere, Atomic Volume and Atomic Weights, the Balance, the Barometer, Beer, and Benzoic Acid.

Chambers's Cyclopædia, in its present monthly part, reaches from "Ides" to "Influenza." The articles, even within this small letter-range, are numerous, and are written on that principle of exact, well-gathered, and well-condensed information which has distinguished the parts already issued, and won for this Cyclopædia, even by the side of such larger works as the "Britannica" and the "English," a place and character of its own. Part 28 of Chambers's *Household Shakespeare* has also appeared, containing the end of "Timon of Athens," the whole of "Pericles," and the beginning of "Titus Andronicus."

Mr. Beeton has become one of the great caterers of amusing literature for our growing youth, and sends us this month quite a handful of his productions, all of which seem carefully planned and nicely got up. *The Boy's Own Magazine* and *The Boy's Penny Magazine* are sure to become favourites; they contain just the kind of reading a clever boy likes—amusing and instructive, without any appearance of the schoolmaster peeping through the deshabille. These both date from the beginning of this year, and both are published monthly—the former, honestly, a very cheap sixpennyworth.

Hedderwick's Miscellany of Instructive and Entertaining Literature. Edited by James Hedderwick. Vol. I. (Pp. 416.)—The volume, edited by a well-known Glasgow journalist and author, contains a goodly collection of tales and descriptive articles.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

AHN (Franz, Ph. D.) New, Practical, and Easy Method of Learning the French Language. Third Course. Author's Edition. Containing a French Reader, with Notes and Vocabulary, by H. W. Ehrlich. 12mo., cl. sd. Trübner. 1s. 6d.

ARCHER (Thomas). Wayfe Summers. The Story of an Inner and an Outer Life. Two Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. 560. Low. 21s.

ALLEN (C.) Young Mechanic's Instructor; or, Workman's Guide to the Various Arts connected with the Building Trades; showing how to strike out all kinds of Arches and Gothic Points; to set out and construct Skew Bridges. With numerous Illustrations of Foundations, Sections, Elevations, &c., &c. Roy. 12mo., sd., pp. 130. Elliot. 2s. 6d.

ARCTIC DISCOVERY AND ADVENTURE. By the Author of "Brazil; Its History, People, Natural Productions, &c." With Map. Fcap. 8vo., pp. vii—387. Religious Tract Society. 3s. 6d.

BARKER (Thomas Herbert, M.D., F.R.S.) On Malaria and Miasmata, and their influence in the production of typhus and typhoid fevers, cholera, and the exanthemata; founded on the Fothergillian Prize Essay for 1859. 8vo., pp. xv—251. Davies. 8s.

BARLEE (Ellen). Helen Lindsay; or, The Trial of Faith. Second Edition. Fcap. 8vo., pp. vi—417. Emily Faithfull. 3s. 6d.

BARREN HONOUR. A Tale. By the Author of "Guy Livingstone." New Edition. Cr. 8vo., pp. 415. Tinsley. 6s.

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MESSRS. MACMILLAN have in preparation a "General View of the Criminal Law of England," by Mr. J. F. Stephen; and the "Great Stone Book," by Mr. D. T. Ansted.

MESSRS. HURST AND BLACKETT will publish shortly "Travels on Horseback in Mantchu Tartary, a Summer's Ride beyond the Great Wall of China," by Mr. George Fleming, a kind of companion volume to Fortune's account of his pleasant walks about Yeddo and Peking, in Japan and China; Dr. Mouat's "Adventures and Researches among the Andamans;" a new novel by the Hon. Mrs. Norton, entitled "Lost and Saved;" and another by Mrs. Brotherton, called "Respectable Sinners."

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MESSRS. BLACKWOOD AND SONS, who are in possession of the west wing of the noble pile of building to be occupied by Messrs. Longman & Co. and themselves, have on the eve of publication a new series of the Chronicles of Carlingford: "The Curate," and "The Doctor's Family."

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MESSRS. TINSLEY BROTHERS promise two new novels: "Martin Pole," by John Saunders, and "Taken upon Trust," by the author of "Recommended to Mercy." They also announce "Abeokuta, and an Exploration of the Cameroon Mountains," by Captain Richard F. Burton, the African traveller; and "Wanderings in West Africa—from Liverpool to Fernando-Po," by a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

MESSRS. ROUTLEDGE will publish in a few weeks an English translation, by Mr. Edmund Routledge, of a French book that has had much success in Paris. It is entitled "The Adventures of a Sporting Dog."

CAPTAIN LASCELLES WRAXALL, the author of several well-known books, and a contributor to many of the literary periodicals of the day, has succeeded to the baronetcy of his uncle, Lieut.-Col. Sir W. Lascelles Wraxall, who died at Passy, Paris, on Saturday last (May 2nd).

It is stated that Mr. J. F. Maguire, M.P., has nearly completed a biography of the temperance apostle, Father Matthew.

In an *In Memoriam* notice in *Fraser's Magazine* of Sir George Cornwall Lewis there is quoted as extremely characteristic of the late statesman this one of his sayings—"Life would be very tolerable except for its pleasures." Perhaps he meant evening-parties.

UNDER the title of "Insecurity of British Property in Peru: an Appeal to the Representatives of the British Nation," Captain Henry De Wolfe Carvell has published an account of the treatment to which he was subjected in 1861 by the Peruvian Government. He asserts that the treatment of British subjects by the Peruvian Government has of late been systematically scandalous, and he charges our Foreign Office with not having been sufficiently energetic in protecting him and others.

OUR Alpine Club, of which Mr. William Longman is one of the leading members, is giving an impulse to the establishment of similar societies all over Europe. A "Schweizerische Alpenclub" is now in process of formation at Berne, with branches in other Swiss towns. Its object, according to the programme, is "the systematic attack of the last hidden corners of the ice-regions, as well as of the highest peaks not yet trodden by man." Another special object of the "Alpenclub" is the erection of huts in the most interesting localities of the Alps, built for the double purpose of affording an asylum for travellers and of giving fixed stations for topographical, meteorological, and other scientific observations. The labours of the society are to commence early this summer.

MICHEL CHEVALIER is engaged at this moment, by command of Napoleon III., on a large work on the internal resources of Mexico, drawn from reports

prepared by special messengers, sent out for the purpose in the train of the French army of invasion.

THE committee of the Luther Memorial at Worms have issued another report, from which it appears that the undertaking is progressing favourably. The gigantic statues of Luther and Wickliff, by Rietschel, are very nearly finished, and those of Huss and Savonarola are in preparation to be cast. A model of Melanchthon, said to be of great beauty, has also been sent in by the sculptor. The basis of the monument, consisting of a vast mass of granite of architectural proportions, is advancing towards completion. Up to the present moment a sum of 174,894 florins has been collected towards the cost of the memorial; but, as this amount is far from being sufficient to cover the expenses, the Protestants of all countries are invited to further contributions.

A LITERARY association, under the title of "Society of Norman Bibliophiles," has just been established at Rouen. Its object is to collect and print rare works and manuscripts relating to Normandy. It is stated that many of the private libraries of Normandy are possessed of most valuable collections of ancient documents, not a few of them relating to the early connexion between France and England.

NUMEROUS revolutionary pamphlets, called "*Bulletins de l'Imprimerie de la Liberté dans le Désert*," have been recently distributed at Paris, Lyons, and other French towns. The imperial police, although making the greatest efforts to discover the mysterious printing-office, have never been able yet to get even a trace leading to it. It seems certain, however, that the press is hidden somewhere in Paris.

THE long-expected correspondence of Goethe with Duke Charles Augustus of Saxe-Weimar, containing, it is stated, matter of the very highest interest, is now definitely announced to appear at the beginning of June. The work will be in two volumes, published by Voigt and Günther, Leipzig.

A PAPER specially devoted to Polish affairs, and to the object of pleading the re-constitution of the kingdom as a political necessity for Europe, is about to appear at Zürich, under the title, "The White Eagle." The journal will be issued under the direction of the "Swiss Central Committee for Poland."

IN an article in the *New Review* on "Sensation Pictures," a passage is quoted from a letter of the painter Wilkie, written from Rome in 1826, which would seem to show that Pre-Raphaelitism of some sort existed even in name before the time of our English Pre-Raphaelites. "Some Germans," writes Wilkie, "with more of the devotion of a sect than of a school, have attracted much attention by reverting to the beginning of art—by studying Raphael's master rather than Raphael." Germans, it seems, originate everything; not even Pre-Raphaelitism is our own. But it seems that the Pre-Raphaelitism of 1826 of which Wilkie speaks was not so thorough a thing as our Pre-Raphaelitism; it was rather a going back to Raphael's immediate predecessors, and his master Perugino, in order to attain to Raphael's excellences. So, at least, says the Reviewer.

THE second of May has been celebrated as usual by the anniversary meeting of the Camden Society. The report this year is more than usually satisfactory, as showing increased activity on the part of one of the most useful literary associations which exist in this country. We learn that the next publication of the Society, which is just ready for delivery to the members, will be—"Wills from Doctors' Commons," edited by John Gough Nichols, Esq., F.S.A., and John Bruce, Esq., F.S.A. The Council refer with great satisfaction to this volume, as proving the success of the endeavours which they have been made for many years to render the materials for our social history which are stored up at Doctors' Commons available for literary purposes. It appears that, so long ago as on the 26th March, 1848, the director and secretary of this Society had an interview, under the authority of the Council, with the Registrars of the Prerogative Court, with the view of procuring some facilities for editing a volume then in course of preparation by the Society. The Registrars declined to comply with the wishes of the Council; and—a memorial, in the nature of an appeal, having been addressed to the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Howley—the Council were informed by his Grace that he had no power to interfere. Subsequent applications for some slight modifications of the stringent rules which limited the use of the Documents in the Prerogative Court were addressed to the late Archbishop of Canterbury and to the Ecclesiastical Court Commissioners, but were attended with no better results. On the institution of the Court of Probate, the

Council, supported by the Society of Antiquaries, and by many eminent literary persons, renewed their endeavours. Sir Cresswell Cresswell, to whom the application was addressed, admitted the principle that documents which had none but literary uses ought to be accessible to literary inquirers; and, as soon as space could be found, Sir Cresswell made arrangements for permitting literary inquirers to consult all wills previous to the year 1700. He also placed this department of the business of the registry of the Court of Probate under the charge of Mr. Paris, a gentleman to whose courtesy to all applicants, and desire to assist their inquiries, the Council are glad to have an opportunity of bearing willing testimony. With the view of making generally known the importance of the new source of literary and historical information which has thus been laid open, the Council now publish a first volume of wills from Doctors' Commons. In this volume specimens are given of the wills of many classes of persons—wills of members of the Royal Family; wills of eminent prelates and noblemen; wills of persons who played important parts during the great Civil War; wills of well-known poets, painters and musicians; wills of divines and philosophers; and, lastly, wills of some distinguished ladies. The Society has issued for the subscription of 1862-3 two other books, viz.:—"Lists of Foreign Protestants and Aliens resident in England, 1618-1688:" From Returns in the State Paper Office: Edited by W. Durrant Cooper, Esq., F.S.A.; and the "Trevelyan Papers," Part II.; from 1551 to 1643: Edited by J. Payne Collier, Esq., from the Muniments of the Trevelyan Family.

IN addition to the debate on Mr. Gladstone's proposition for the taxation of charities, there have been two other debates of important intellectual interest in the House of Commons this week. On Tuesday night Mr. Walter moved for an innovation on the present "Revised Code" system of Government aid to schools. Of two resolutions which he proposed, the one which came to the vote was "That to require the employment of certificated teachers or of pupil-teachers by school-managers as an indispensable condition of their participation in the capitation grant is inexpedient and unjust to the managers of such schools." In reply to Mr. Walter, Mr. Lowe contended that "the certificated teachers are the corner-stone of the existing system," and that this system, though not fully tried yet, is working too well to be disturbed. Mr. Walter's resolution was lost by a vote of 152 against 117; but many matters were discussed in the debate, showing that, if not our education-system itself, at least opinion upon that system, is yet in a state of chaos. The other important discussion on the same evening was on a motion of Mr. Bouverie for going into committee to amend a portion of the Act of Uniformity relating to the Universities. He proposed to repeal the eighth section of the Act which makes it incumbent upon deans, canons, prebends, professors, masters of colleges, and all fellows, to make a declaration of conformity to the Liturgy of the Church of England previous to their admission to their appointments or fellowships. For some time a movement in the direction indicated by Mr. Bouverie's motion has been in progress among the University-men—particularly at Cambridge, where a singular illustration of the working of the present system occurred recently in the case of Mr. Stirling, the splendid Senior Wrangler for 1860. Mr. Stirling was precisely the man that the University and his own College would have been proud to keep connected with them through a fellowship; and a fellowship, of course, he would have had, but that, being a Presbyterian, and the son of a Presbyterian minister, he could not conscientiously make the declaration of conformity required. Partly from the effect of Mr. Stirling's case, partly on more general grounds of principle, a large body of the younger Cambridge men—headed by Mr. W. G. Clark, Public Orator of the University, and Mr. Henry Fawcett—have for some time declared themselves in favour of a change of system that should open the fellowships to Non-conformists. In the debate on Mr. Bouverie's motion, Lord Stanley, with his characteristic independence in such matters, avowed himself in favour of the opening of the fellowships; and the motion was supported also by Mr. Grant Duff, a distinguished Oxford man. But Mr. Walpole and Lord Robert Cecil opposed the motion, and pressed a distinction which might be made between the proposition, already ratified by that House, for opening the Universities to all sects of her Majesty's subjects for the purposes of education, and the present proposition, which would

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COMET III. 1863.

Time of perihelion passage, April, 22 ^d 7 ^h 56 ^m G. M. T.	
Longitude of perihelion	296° 53' 49.3"
Longitude of node	241 14 33.7
Inclination	34 36 13.9
Perihelion distance	0.61409
Motion, direct.	

EPHEMERIS.

Places for Greenwich—mean, midnight.

May 10 R.A.	2 ^h	22 ^m	4 ^s	Dec. +	47°	25'
11		28	34			29
12		34	53			29
13		40	59			25
14		46	56			22
15		52	28			18
16	3	58	13		+ 47	8

THOSE who possess telescopes will have much to do during the present month besides observing these comets; for three planets are well placed for observation, besides several of the most beautiful star-systems and clusters. Among these latter, we may especially mention the "double-double" of Lyra and the glorious cluster in Hercules, both of which, in a 3-inch glass only, are very beautiful. Alvan Clarke, who can use a telescope as well as make one, has called the attention of the editors of *Silliman's Journal* to ζ and μ Herculis. The components of the former last summer were so nearly in conjunction that it could not be divided with a fine 8-inch glass in the best atmosphere, with a power of 1000—a notable epoch in its history, and reminding one forcibly of that *Stella Smythii* γ Virginis in 1836, when an occultation of one star by the other took place. ζ Cancri, too, is now becoming a very difficult triple star. At the last meeting of the Astronomical Society, in a paper read by Mr. Carpenter, it was stated that Saturn had lately presented an appearance as if the "crape" or "dusky" ring were becoming a bright one. This is a point of immense interest, which all who care for physical astronomy should well watch. Should it be confirmed, and subsequent observation has certainly strengthened Mr. Carpenter's suspicions—M. Otto Struve's theory of the gradual approach of the rings to the planet may be true after all, and this generation may be privileged to witness the phenomenon of a ring growing *à vue d'œil*. M. Tietjen has communicated elements and an ephemeris, of the new minor planet (78) Diana to the last number of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*.

ALVAN CLARKE'S 18½ inch object-glass, for which he has recently received the Lalande prize of the French Academy, and which—we trust not for long—throws the work of our opticians into the shade, has been purchased by the Astronomical Association of Chicago for 11,187 dollars; and it will cost about another such sum to mount it. Surely the people of Chicago, which in 1835 contained but 1000 inhabitants, put the *soi-disant* more philosophic dwellers of many more ancient cities to shame, seeing that, in the midst of a dreadful civil war, they, purely in the interests of science, and in the quietest manner, do that which but few of our old-world governments—not to mention our seats of learning—do, even with much trumpeting.

At the last meeting of the Geological Society Sir R. Murchison gave an interesting account of the results of his recent geological investigations in Bavaria and Bohemia, undertaken in consequence of the discovery by M. Gümbel of the representative of the primordial zone of the Silurian Basin of Fragne, near Hof. One of Sir Roderick's principal objects in exploring this region was to convince himself, if possible, of the existence of a fundamental gneiss of as high antiquity as the Laurentian rocks of Canada and Scotland, and of the truth of M. Gümbel's view of the distinction of the gneiss, which is some 90,000 feet thick, into older and younger; but, after a survey of the whole district, he was unable to distinguish any order of superposition between its two members—the so-called younger gneiss, in one extensive tract near the Danube, dipping, according to M. Gümbel, under the older; and their variable strike rendered it as difficult to judge by that character as by their dip, its direction in some places being at right angles to what it is in others, in consequence of their wave-like contortion. For the present, therefore, Sir Roderick considers that the gneiss-rocks constitute one great series, and that the two varieties are not separated by any different intervening sediment, as in the N.W. of Scotland. A clear illustration of the whole ascending succession is afforded by the order of superposition exhibited in M. Gümbel's section from Hof to Selb, a distance of about seven or eight miles. Gneiss is there seen resting against granite, and passing up into mica-slate underlying concretionary, quartzose, chloritic masses, which form the base of the Urthonschiefer. This primary clay-

slate is followed by quartzites and black roofing-slate, in the latter of which the fossils of the Silurian Primordial Zone of Barrande occur, and ultimately by other Silurian, Devonian, and Lower Carboniferous strata in conformable succession, the latter passing conformably upwards into Mountain Limestone, which is shown to be quite unconformable to the Upper Carboniferous of Germany. In the remaining north-west portion of the section the strata are repeated in inverted succession, having been dislocated by the intrusion of igneous rocks. Sir Roderick next adverted to the question of the parallelism of the Silurian rocks of Bohemia with those of Britain, pointing out that the Austrian Geological Survey, whose new map he exhibited, had adopted, for this occasion only, the colours used by the Geological Survey of Great Britain; and he stated his belief that too close a parallelism between the subformations had been attempted, and that the parallelism of such large groups only as lower and upper Silurian, as proposed by Barrande, with a possible interpolation of "Middle Silurian," could be maintained. The author then contrasted the absence of Devonian and Lower Carboniferous rocks, coupled with the full development of Lower and Upper Silurian life in Bohemia, with the fuller and unbroken succession in Bavaria. He concluded by observing that the conformable succession of strata in Bavaria and other tracts shows the existence of beds which bridge over the gaps, represented by unconformities that occur in the British series; and pointedly adverted to the two facts that the enormous thickness of clay-slate beneath the Primordial Zone, though unaltered over large areas, had afforded no vestiges of life. Another noteworthy remark was that the transitional groups of strata, uniting two great systems, had not afforded in any country a link connecting one class of animals with another.

It is now a century since the announcement was made by Priestly that the gas emitted from the surface of leaves was oxygen; and on this brilliant discovery, which teaches us the wonderful part played by vegetables in purifying the air vitiated by combustion or by the respiration of animals, rests a whole chain of harmonies connecting the two life-kingdoms. From some recent researches of M. Boussingault, however, it would appear that we have not yet got at all the important functions connected with decomposition of carbonic acid. Théodore de Saussure, nearly at the beginning of the present century, ascertained that the volume of the oxygen gas given off was not quite equal to the carbonic acid decomposed; he also announced that nitrogen was evolved to an amount about equal to that of the oxygen gas which had somehow disappeared. In modern times Daubeny was unable to obtain from leaves oxygen gas free from nitrogen—forty-nine per cent. of the gas emitted from the leaves of *Pinus taeda* and *Poa annua* being nitrogen; the first step towards the elucidation of the matter was made by Cloëz and Gratiolet, who found that the oxygen got purer and purer exactly as if the nitrogen retained in the tissues was gradually expelled. M. Boussingault found that 100 measures of carbonic acid gas, decomposed by foliage under the light, gave 97.2 of oxygen gas, and that 1.11 of so-called nitrogen had appeared; but, on careful examination, it was found that this supposed azote was in reality carbonic oxide, and, moreover, corresponded in a remarkable manner with the amount of oxygen gas which had disappeared, so that foliage, during the decomposition of carbonic acid, does not emit nitrogen, but some oxide of carbon, and some protocarburetted of hydrogen; and these combustible gases, like the oxygen, are produced only in the light of the sun. Thus the leaves of aquatic, and probably of all plants, while emitting this life-giving oxygen, also produce one of the most hurtful of all gases, carbonic oxide, to which, possibly, the unhealthiness of marshy districts is attributable. Unless the carbonic acid and carburetted of hydrogen are products of the decomposition of some of the vegetable matter coëtantaneous with vegetable assimilation, but no part of that process itself, the vegetable world would appear—as has been well remarked by Dr. Gray, one of the editors of *Silliman's Journal*—"to be working at a loss, and with a real, though it be a small, waste of material." When any carbonic acid taken into the leaves passes off unchanged, *so much work is not done*; but there is *no waste* or loss in the process of manufacture. But, looking at the food of plants and their products—comparing the raw material with the manufactured article—it seems apparent that any carbonic acid which is reduced to carbonic oxide, and given off as such, is so much loss or waste.

have the farther effect of admitting into the government of the colleges and the management of their endowments persons not members of the Church of England. Lord Palmerston, without committing himself to the motion—which required, he said, grave consideration—summed up for going into committee upon it; which was, accordingly, carried by a vote of 157 against 135. Leave was therefore given to Mr. Bouverie to bring in his Bill; and June 3rd was fixed for the second reading. We may expect much discussion among University-men in view of the second reading.

SCIENCE.

SCIENTIFIC SUMMARY.

SCIENCE as well as Art, held high festival last Saturday; and, as was fitting, the *Conversazione* of the President of the Royal Society was attended by a brilliant company. All the sciences were represented, and generally by the particular object to which attaches the greatest interest at the present moment. First we will mention the magnificent spectroscopic which Mr. Gassiot, for whom it has been constructed, intends to deposit at Kew Observatory for the free use of scientific men. In this triumph of English skill nine flint prisms are used, and the telescopes employed are each of two feet focus. The angle at which the different rays of the spectrum are refracted is measured by a circle reading to 10", and a micrometer eye-piece attached to the observing telescope which divides these 10" into some thousand parts. The dispersion which the light undergoes in its almost circular passage through the prisms is so enormous that the sodium line D is not only shown double, but so widely double that several other lines can be observed between the two. Next must we mention the induction coil, constructed, we believe, by Ruhmkoff himself, exhibited by Mr. E. Atkinson. This instrument gave off a forked spark eighteen inches in length, with a noise at least suggestive of thunder. The effect of a series of Leyden jars in increasing the thickness of the spark was rendered very evident, Foucault's double-acting mercury break being employed. We have before mentioned in these columns the application of the induced current to the lighting of mines. One method of effecting this was shown. Professor Tyndall exhibited, in a very beautiful manner, the composition of sound-vibrations by means of a beam of light reflected from a mirror placed on the end of a vibrating tuning-fork, and again reflected from another mirror on to a screen. Professor Clark Maxwell astonished many by the beautiful curves described by a beam of light reflected, not this time from a tuning-fork, but from a pendulum of peculiar construction. Microscopists were delighted by Messrs. Smith and Beck's beautiful show of instruments, and also by Messrs. Powell and Lealand's $\frac{1}{2}$ " of which we have something to say farther on. Models of armour-plated frigates were there, and photozincographs of Armstrongs, and photographs of the dire effects of the latter as shown by the Shoeburyness targets. Botanists examined the *Welwitschia* sent from Kew for their inspection, and Anthropologists could study M. Oswald Dimprie's original drawing of the human jaw found at Abbeville, and the human remains lately discovered near Chatham, sent by the Anthropological Society. Mr. Sorby exhibited specimens of mica schist and slate, showing ripple-drift, and microscopic sections, indicating the correlation of pressure and chemical action in slate and other rocks. Nor must we forget to mention Mr. Gurney's signal-lamp, which is visible at a distance of fifty miles, and his gas-making apparatus, with which it is connected, or the Wheatstone printing telegraph in full operation. We must here close our list, concluding our account by stating that the Prince of Wales was among those welcomed at Burlington House by the amiable and distinguished President of the Royal Society.

We announced last week that M. Hermann Romberg was engaged in calculating the orbits of the two comets which are now visible. We are now by his kindness enabled to give their elements, and an ephemeris of the most interesting one. It will be observed that this comet passed its perihelion last month. Both are new. The elements of COMET II., 1862, discovered by Dr. Klinkerfues, are as follows, calculated from observations taken at Mr. Barclay's Observatory:—

Passage of perihelion, April 5th, 1 ^h 7 ^m 38 ^s G. M. T.	
Longitude of perihelion	247° 7' 42.3"
Longitude of ascending node	251 10 32.4
Perihelion distance	1.06857
Inclination	67° 13' 38.0"
Motion, retrograde.	

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LEARNED SOCIETIES.

VERY gratifying is it to learn, from no less an authority than the President of the Microscopical Society, who stated the fact in his annual address, given in full in the *Microscopic Journal*, that no less than 600 microscopes were sold by three London opticians alone during last year—the sale of instruments of the very highest class maintaining its full proportion of increase. 360 first-class object-glasses were supplied, in addition, by one house. More than this, the demand for mounted objects is proportionate to the demand for instruments, and rather too great for the supply. A $\frac{1}{2}$ " object-glass is now no longer an almost unusable power, rarely seen, but an article in the market regularly supplied and admitting sufficient space between it and the covering-glass to render its use comparatively easy and agreeable instead of barely possible—a fact recognised by all who were fortunate enough to attend the annual Soirée of the Microscopical Society, at which an object-glass of this size was exhibited by Messrs. Powell and Lealand, to the delight of all beholders. Microscopic research, indeed, with such a powerful aid should almost be compelled to begin *de novo*, seeing that thousands take the place of hundreds in the magnifying powers employed. With this $\frac{1}{2}$ "th, and their highest power eye-piece, Messrs. Powell and Lealand are enabled to magnify an object 7500 diameters; in other words, a given area is magnified upwards of 56,000,000 times. This, of course, is an extreme power; but 1300 and 3000 diameters give a picture wonderfully sharp and clear. The active rotation of the chlorophyll corpuscles, caused by the current of protoplasm in the cells of the *Vallisneria spiralis*, was the object exhibited at the Soirée; and very marvellous it was. The corpuscles, which, it was formerly thought, progressed by means of *cilia*, were with this enormously high power shown to be borne alone by a current of some fluid which was clearly visible, and contains, moreover, jelly-like masses which have yet to be explained. We must congratulate Messrs. Powell and Lealand upon this wonderful step in advance, as will all who examine the object-glass—itself all but a microscopic object, and ground, worked, and polished under the microscope.

Those who delight to see the practical application of scientific facts to the realities of every-day life, should read a pamphlet lately published on the applicability of the magneto-electric light to light-house use, as not only is the theory of light-production admirably stated, but the mist-penetrating power and superiority of the new light fully proved. Beautifully dazzling though the light was—as all will recollect—in the Great Exhibition, it is in comparison with other light-house lights that its qualities come out best. At Dungeness, last year, Dr. Faraday made the comparison, and states in his report that "Such was the power of the Electric Light that the addition or subtraction of the light of a fully effective set of reflectors, with their lamps, would not have been sensible to a mariner, however observant he might have been." The expenditure under the present system would seem to vary considerably, ranging from £300 up to £400, or even £500 a year. Assuming that the charges for the Electric Light would reach to between £600 and £700, the difference of annual cost would not be excessive;—regard being had to the magnitude of the interests involved, and to the special powers possessed by the Electric Light, of rendering service at the only times when lights are really wanted, which are not on the very rare occasions of dense fog, when all navigation is suspended, but under the constantly recurring conditions of "thick weather," mist, and haze, through which the Electric Light penetrates so much further than the oil-flame. We are glad that this subject has been brought before Parliament; and the general application of magnetic force, to warn the mariner of home dangers after compass-guided voyages across the trackless ocean will be hailed by all as another victory gained by Science.

THE French Academy has lately done great honour to English science in the election of Mr. A. Cayley and Sir Thomas Maclean as correspondents in the astronomical section. Nor is this all; for, of the fourteen candidates proposed at both elections including Otto Struve, Hencke, Lamont, and other equally well-known names, seven were Englishmen. Mr. Cayley obtained thirty-eight votes out of forty-four, and Sir Thomas Maclean forty, out of the same number. More recently still, Admiral Fitzroy has been elected in the section of geography and navigation, which shows how much his weather-warnings are appreciated in France.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, April 22nd. T. J. Pettigrew, F.R.S., F.S.A., V.-P. in the chair.—John Whitehead Walton, Esq., of Saville Row, was elected an Associate.—DR. PALMER, F.S.A., of Newbury, announced the discovery of a Roman villa of some extent at Ealing Farm, about a mile and a half from Well House, Berks. Dr. Palmer also announced the discovery of a camp hitherto unrecorded on the Hampshire chain of hills, whence various coins of Probus, Licinius, and Carausius had been found. Mr. Vere Irving, V.-P., exhibited, on the part of Mr. Green-shields, an interesting group of antiquities discovered in the parish of Leshmahago, in Lanarkshire, including a Celtic coin of silver, which may be compared with the Channel Island type. The Rev. E. Kell, F.S.A., exhibited three Minimi found at Clausentum, near Southampton. He also produced a gilt thumb-ring of the fifteenth century, with the motto, "MELEOR CERA CANDU PLERA," which he translated, "When God pleases, better will be." Mr. Syer Cuming read some notes in relation to the costume of a figure of Mother Shipton lately exhibited to the Association. Professor Buckman of Cirencester exhibited various antiquities lately found in Gloucestershire. Three large iron lances or spears were exhibited from a hoard of upwards of 120 found in a field at Bourton-on-the-Water, one of which measured no less than thirty-four inches in length. A flint celt or axe-blade was exhibited by Mr. White of Crudewell in Wiltshire.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, May 1st. The Lord Lytton, F.R.S., in the chair.—PROFESSOR WILLIS, F.R.S., delivered a discourse on "The Cathedral of Worcester," supplementary to that given by him at the Archeological Congress in that city last year. Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, M.P., exhibited the famous "Llyfr du," or Black Book of Carmarthen, formerly preserved in the abbey at that town, but now forming part of the well-known Hengwrt collection, the property of Mr. Wynne. Mr. Duffus Hardy and Sir Frederick Madden had pronounced the MS. to be in the handwriting of the twelfth century, and their opinion has been confirmed by internal evidence. It is a collection of Welsh poetry; including, Mr. Wynne mentioned, contemporary odes addressed to the ancient princes of Wales. Other members present also exhibited objects of antiquarian interest. Lord Lytton announced that the special exhibition of sculptures in ivory would be open to members and their friends, at the apartments of the Institute, from Monday, June 1, to Saturday, June 13, inclusive.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, May 4th. William Pole, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., Treasurer and Vice-president, in the chair.—THE Secretary announced that his grace the President had nominated the following Vice-presidents for the ensuing year:—Sir William G. Armstrong; William Pole; Esq., M.A., F.R.S., Treasurer; the Rev. John Barlow, M.A., F.R.S.; Sir Henry Holland, Bart., M.D., D.C.L., F.R.S.; Sir Roderick I. Murchison, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S.; and the Lord Wensleydale. John Graham, M.D., and Cosmo Howard, Esq., were elected members of the Royal Institution. The following professors were re-elected:—William Thomas Brande, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., Hon. Professor of Chemistry; John Tyndall, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Natural Philosophy; and Edward Frankland, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., was elected Professor of Chemistry.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, May 4th. Sir H. C. Rawlinson, K.C.B., Director, in the chair. Henry P. Le Mesurier, Esq., was elected a non-resident member.—Two papers by the Rev. Jules Ferrette were read by that gentleman, one on some Syriac-speaking villages still found to exist in anti-Lebanon; and the other on a new and cheap system of printing the vowels and diacritical signs in Arabic, using but a single row of types for each line of print, and conforming to the established rules of caligraphy.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, April 22nd. Sir P. de M. G. Egerton, Bart., Vice-President, in the chair. N. Kendall, Esq., M.P., Member of the Royal Commission of Mines, Pelyn, Cornwall; Major F. J. Rickard, Inspector-General of Mines in the Argentine Republic, 21A, Hanover Square, W.; and C. E. Spooner, Esq., Bron-y-Garth, Port Madoc, North Wales, were elected Fellows. M. A. Favre, Professor of Geology in the Academy of Geneva; Franz Ritter von Hauer, k.-k. Bergrath, and of the Imperial Geological Institute of Vienna; M. Hébert, Professor of Geology to the Faculty of Sciences at Paris; E. Boyrich, Professor of Geology in the University of Berlin; and Dr. F. Sandberger, Professor of Mineralogy at

Carlsruhe, were elected Foreign Correspondents.—COMMUNICATIONS were read:—"On the Gneiss and other Azoic Rocks, and on the superjacent Palaeozoic Formations of Bavaria and Bohemia," by Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., and "On a Section at Mocktree," by R. Lightbody, Esq., communicated by J. W. Salter, Esq.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, Wednesday, May 6th. John Dillon, Esq., Vice-president, in the chair.—THE paper read was "On Natal and South-East Africa," by Mr. John Robinson, of Natal. The author, after giving an account of the discovery, situation, and early history of Natal, described the nature of the country and climate. Careful calculations warrant the belief that cotton of an excellent description can be grown at a cost of from 4d. to 6d. per pound, and a supply from this colony is confidently anticipated.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, MAY 11th.

GEOGRAPHICAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House. Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., President, in the Chair. Papers to be read:—1. "Arrival of the Expedition under Captains Speke and Grant at Khartum, on the Nile, from Zanzibar." 2. "Despatches from Governors Sir H. Barkly and Sir Geo. Bowen—Landsborough's Traverse of Australia." 3. "Lieut. Oliver, R.A., on Madagascar."

TUESDAY, MAY 12th.

CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. 1st. Discussion upon Mr. Zerah Colburn's Paper on "American Iron Bridges." 2nd. "On the Communication between London and Dublin." Mr. W. Watson, M.A., Assoc. Inst., C.E. ZOOLOGICAL, at 9.—11, Hanover Square. "On the Derbigan Island of Western Africa." "On the Equatorial Elephant and the Gorilla." Mr. W. Winwood Reade. "On Mammals and Birds collected in Madagascar by Dr. Mellor." Dr. Sciator.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN, at 7.30.—23, Hart Street, Bloomsbury Square. "Some Remarks on the Coffin-lid of Men-ka-ra, the Mycerinus of the Greeks." Mr. Marsden.

MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL, at 8.30.—53, Bowers Street, Oxford Street.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL, at 7.30.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. "On Human Remains from Brick-earth near Chatham." Prof. Geo. Busk, F.R.S. "On a Microcephalic Human Brain." Prof. John Marshall, F.R.S. "Past and Present Populations of the New World." Mr. Bollaert.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13th.

ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, at 4.—32, Sackville Street. Anniversary.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi.

MICROSCOPICAL, at 8.—King's College, Strand.

LITERARY FUND, at 8.—4, Adelphi Terrace, Adelphi.

GRAPHIC, at 8.—Flaxman Hall, University College.

THURSDAY, MAY 14th.

ANTIQUARIAN, at 8.30.—Somerset House.

FRIDAY, MAY 15th.

PHILOLOGICAL, at 8.—Somerset House. Anniversary. "On the Keltic Element in the Oscean and Umbrian." Prof. Francis Newman.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—Albemarle Street.

ART.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

(FIRST NOTICE.)

THE general impression made by the present Exhibition is decidedly favourable. There are not a few pictures of worthy performance, while there are more than usual of great promise. In the present brief notice we shall speak of the few pictures that must strike the eye and claim the attention of every visitor.

And first of the great work by Millais, which he calls in the catalogue "The Eve of St. Agnes," giving an extract from Keats's poem. The chief objection that can fairly be made to the picture, although doubtless many will be raised, is that it does not illustrate the poem. If, however, we look upon this work of art as merely suggested by Keats's description, without in any sense affecting to be bound by it, the objection will be at once removed. The poem was beautifully illustrated by Arthur Hughes, some years since, in a picture painted in three compartments, which most art-lovers will readily call to mind. That was a true representation of Keats's idea, with its imagery and accessories; but it lacked that faculty of true genius so pre-eminently characteristic of Millais, and by which he takes possession of a subject, so to speak, and makes it his own. Rarely has his imaginative power been more remarkably displayed. The old room at Kinsale is haunted, not indeed by Keats's Madeline, but by a supernatural presence more fearful than holy. As she slowly disrobes herself in the moonlight, an involuntary shudder creeps over us, as if in the presence of an uncanny thing—the indescribable dread that the strange lady in Coleridge's fragment called forth when "She looked askance at Christabel." The chief merit of the picture is the unity of its parts; all of which seem necessary to the completeness of the whole, while further elaboration would destroy its power. That this power is of the highest kind we may be sure, from the general comment with which the picture was received by artists—"How like Rembrandt!" Not that we should mistake Millais's work for Rembrandt's; but we feel, when before this picture, that his magical power is akin to that which was exercised by the greatest genius of

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NOTES OF THE LIFE OF AUGUSTUS L. EGG.

Holland. We regret that a quotation is given at all. The picture does not embody Keats's idea; and already critics are falling foul of what they call Millais's failure to appreciate the beauty of the author's creation. The genius of the painter could not be bounded by the special description of the poet. Let us, however, look at Millais's picture, without any reference to Keats's poem, except for the mere suggestion of a subject, and we shall soon become sensible that we are before a great work of art. We shall not the less feel this because we acknowledge the presence less of a maiden than of an apparition. The work is so harmonious that we can hardly fancy a change, either in the figure or the room, that would not destroy its present unity. About the general truth of effect—which embraces, of course, the special effect of moonlight—there will probably be no difference of opinion. Neither is there likely to be any question about the colour, or the magical facility of the "painting." The picture is hardly likely to become a popular favourite; and the object of these remarks is rather to furnish some hints which may help to the right understanding of the work than to disarm fairly applied criticism. The two other pictures exhibited by Millais will be sure to meet with universal approval. Anything that a man undertakes for wife or children is likely to be done *con amore*; and, when such an artist as Millais paints his children, he throws all his strength into his work. The portrait of the little girl sitting in the high baized pew, and listening to "her first sermon" (few sermons in her after life will she probably listen to so respectfully), leaves little to wish for that the painter has not given to us. Millais's mastery of expression is nowhere more evident than in his painting of the more quiet and thoughtful forms of it. In the face of this child, as also in that of the other portrait, where she is represented lying on her back and playing with a snow-drop, we are sensible of an almost unique power, possessed by Millais, of seizing that look of inward consciousness, of the soul irradiating the features—only to be seen in its utmost purity in the sweet faces of children. Of the two pictures, we greatly prefer the "First Sermon." The group called "The Wolf's Den" is a less complete work, but will be found very attractive. Not the least striking fact in it is the more than common likeness of the child to the father which we trace in the face of the eldest boy.

Watts's picture of "Ariadne" is one of the great works in this Exhibition. Like all this master's work, it is raised far above most contemporary art by a high imaginative treatment and a fine quality of colour. It will commend itself to most visitors who care to notice how delicate in colour, how harmonious, how free from the common fault of "painty" surface, this picture appears to be as compared with those around it. Another very striking picture is Calderon's "British Embassy in Paris on the Day of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew." Not only is it the best picture Mr. Calderon has painted, but it is very nearly the best work in the Exhibition. No better-conceived figure than that of Sir Francis Walsingham is to be found among the pictures. The group at the window is very natural—the various expressions free from any melodramatic affectation. By the wonderful moderation of the painter we are very deeply impressed, and are made to realize the tragedy that is being enacted in sight of the ambassador's house as we never could have been by any amount of theatrical treatment.

Philip's picture of "The House of Commons" occupies the place of honour in the large room. This is a marvel of painting—a fine manly piece of work. Of the portraits we will not speak—people will differ about them; but probably no one will hesitate for an instant to name any one of them. But, as an example of triumphant surmounting of immense difficulties, this is a work of which our school may be proud. Notice, especially, the beautiful colour in the neighbourhood of the Speaker, and the daring, rattling, magnificent painting of the books and papers, the mace, &c., covering the table in front. We cannot wonder that there is an evident move among the younger painters towards an imitation of the execution of Mr. Philip. This is really painting.

One of the pictures most striking, on entering the first room to the left of the stairs, is a group of portraits of ladies, by an artist whose name is new to us—Mr. Orchardson. It seems to us to be a work of very great promise; and, more than this, it gives evidence of great present power and of original thought. We shall have occasion to refer to this picture when speaking of some of the portraits; but we must defer this as well as our further notices of the Exhibition.

THE 2nd of May, 1816, is a notable date, in the Court Annals at least, for on it was enacted a marriage in which the nation was generally interested, although it was allowed but little opportunity of manifesting its feeling at the time. It was a marriage between the Princess Charlotte and the Prince of Saxe-Cobourg. The ceremony began in the evening, at Buckingham Palace, with a dinner given by the Queen. A few minutes before eight o'clock the Princess Charlotte was conducted to the hall. The Queen entered the carriage and sat with her on one side, while the Princesses Elizabeth and Augusta took their places opposite. The Princesses Mary and Sophia of Gloucester followed in another. They reached Carlton House by the garden-entrance at eight o'clock. The Prince of Saxe-Cobourg left the Duke of Clarence's at half-past eight. The marriage ceremony was celebrated in the grand crimson saloon. It commenced at nine and terminated at half-past. The Archbishop of Canterbury was assisted by the Bishop of London. The bride and bridegroom started off for Oatlands, which they reached at ten minutes to twelve.

The public, as we have indicated, were not called upon to express their interest in the event; but in many a household the feeling of sympathy for the unfortunate Princess and admiration for her husband were exhibited. We have to do only with one example of this. It was in the house of Mr. Joseph Egg, gunmaker, of Piccadilly—a useful man in the world by the exercise of a great gift of ingenuity; particularly, perhaps, in the invention of the universal copper percussion-cap, before which all shooting had been done with the simple flint-lock, or by an intended but doubtful improvement on that in the shape of a percussion-gun, which, having proved disastrous to the eyes of several sportsmen, was voted worse than useless—it was in this house, on this same 2nd of May, that a third son was born, who, in due time, was christened, after the royal bridegroom, Augustus Leopold Egg.

We like to know what men, who have afterwards proved remarkable, were in their infancy. Master Gussy, then, when he got his legs, seems also to have got a will of his own. He walked down into the shop very frequently and meddled with the workmen's tools, and interfered with his elder brothers' experimental labours until they grew out of patience with him and thrust him out through the door into the private passage. But, as the handle would turn from that side too, and the child could master it, in a minute or two he was back at his mischief again, as troublesome as ever; whereat, profiting by experience, the additional precaution was taken, when he was next expelled, to lock the door, when work was recommenced with a feeling of security. But the young gentleman was not so easily beaten. The street-door fastenings yielded to his hand, and, once in the street, he knew no fastenings existed but those that would give way to any respectable application for admission; so, with a plausible rat-rat, he bided his opportunity, and rushed again triumphantly into the shop immediately the door was incautiously opened. This, and such like conduct, was to be borne only when there was no alternative: so most of the family were interested in his punctual observance of school-hours; and accordingly Master Augustus was despatched—too strictly, in his opinion—on the stroke of nine in the morning to his dame's school, and, for the journey, was confided to the care of a stalwart workman on the spot, who took him up bodily to convey him over the dangerous crossings. The boy was no easy charge. There are mothers of families—children then at the same school—who can tell how the young scapegrace, when there, delighted in getting one or two other boys to assist him, at a given signal, to turn over a whole form full of girls together. The general conclusion from these facts will be that Master Augustus Leopold was a spoiled child; but it does not seem that he was considered more trouble than he was worth. In spite of his steady determination to have his way in the world, he was loved by every one—father, mother, sister, brothers, servants, and even the school-mistress and his fellow-scholars. In time he became too old for the dame's school; when he was sent to Hall Place, Bexley, Kent, for further education. Of this time we can learn only that he was the foremost in all enterprises of adventure in the play-ground and the orchard. The first instance, however, of his disposition to sacrifice himself belongs to this period, although it did not occur at school, but during the holidays, in the

Isle of Wight. He had been wandering with an older companion on the beach, when they observed that the tide had come in and cut them off from dry land; it was calm, and there was no danger but of getting a soaking. Augustus remarked that there was no necessity for the two to get wet, and proposed that the other should get on his shoulders, and accordingly he thus carried him through the water. When he got well on in his teens his father had him home, to be ready for a government appointment that had been promised him. While the boy was waiting for this, with much time on his hands, he first exhibited a passion for drawing. By some chance, Sir F. Chantrey, who often called upon his father, saw some of his sketches, and, recognising their talent, encouraged him by inviting him to bring his future drawings to his studio at Pimlico. Doubtless, this had a great effect in determining him to become an artist; for soon after he took to the task of decorating the walls of his father's study, at the top of the house, with a composition of a Swiss scene, and earned a large meed of praise by his labours. The government appointment, meanwhile—as fate would have it—did not come to him and interfere; so the father, at the advice of Sir Francis, sent Augustus to Mr. Sass, to study drawing systematically. Here he met Douglas Cowper, Dadd, Frith, Elmore, Phillip, and some other of his later friends.

He was by this time fast approaching his twentieth year. He is described as appearing rather less than his full age, and noticeable for being extremely exact and gentlemanlike in his dress, and of a bearing that soon made him a great favourite. His disposition for fun recommended him more to his fellow-students than to his teacher. On one occasion, this gentleman, who had quite a romantic notion of the dignity of the profession, and did justice to this view by his solemn deportment, suddenly discovering a pewter quart-pot in a little cupboard in the pedestal of the Apollo Belvidere, held it out in great indignation, inquiring to whom it belonged. Mr. Augustus Leopold advanced politely, with the naive assurance that he believed it belonged to the publican round the corner, whose name was engraved on its face. "My question, sir, applies to the person who is responsible for its introduction here." "It was I, sir, who had the beer for my lunch brought in it," replied the student. "Then I have to declare, Mr. Egg," said the scandalized Mr. Sass, gesticulating with the beer-pot still in his hand, "that your conduct makes it easy to prophesy you will never succeed in your pursuit of art;" and it seems he held this view to the last, although the student drew and progressed steadily, and exhibited no degrading taste but in the instance given of love of beer out of the pewter. Like Clive Newcome, under similar circumstances, the young gentleman had his horse brought to the door by the groom when he left at three or four in the afternoon; and in all things, it would appear, he conducted his studies in a more luxurious way than his fellows.

In 1836 he obtained admission to the Royal Academy as a probationer, and afterwards as a student. This was the last year of the Academy's occupancy of Somerset House.

(To be continued.)

ON Saturday last Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods disposed of Mr. Henry Charlton's collection of Pictures and Water-colour drawings. Coming so immediately after the dispersion of the Bicknell Gallery and Water-colour Drawings, the sale of which only concluded on the day before, the prices were, perhaps, not so well sustained as might otherwise have been the case; yet they were sufficiently so to show how much the taste for good pictures is on the increase—a natural consequence of the International Exhibition of last year, with its wonderful gallery of modern Art. There was a charming Collins, lot 54, "Cockle-Gatherers on the Sea-shore, Morning," which only produced 158 guineas; lot 61, Patrick Nasmyth's celebrated original picture, "Modern Athens," a panoramic view of the city of Edinburgh, 175 guineas; lot 58, a beautiful specimen of T. S. Cooper, "Evening," a group of three cows and a goat basking in the sunshine, 91 guineas; lot 40, "Gala Water on the Tweed," by Clarkson Stanfield, a beautiful cabinet picture, 75 guineas; lot 53, another Patrick Nasmyth, a glorious picture, "View near Dorking," 176 guineas; lot 158, "Flora," a cabinet gem by Etty, 36 guineas; lot 41, another Stanfield, "Fast Castle, Berwickshire," 50 guineas; another Cooper, associated with R. Lee, "The Forest Glade," the landscape by the latter, the cattle and sheep by the former, a charming picture, 65 guineas; and lot 57, "The Mountain-

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OPERAS AND CONCERTS.

A NEW baritone, Signor Colonnese, at Covent Garden, made his first appearance on Tuesday in "La Traviata." Mdlle. Fioretti, who acted *Violetta*, sings only too well for such a part. She does not look the character; which, considering what the character is, is rather a compliment than otherwise. Signor Tamberlik has reappeared in *Arnoldo*, singing Rossini's magnificent music as if he meant not to surrender the character to any rival for some years to come. "William Tell," as now given at this house, is one of the most complete triumphs of operatic management on record. Such a combination of male vocal talent as makes up the great trio of the three friends can be but rarely reckoned on. It is impossible to see such an opera too often. Every fresh hearing of the music reveals beauties not noticed or only half-perceived before. Mdlle. Adelina Patti reappeared on Thursday in "Sonnambula," the opera which opened her triumphant career on the European stage.

At Her Majesty's Theatre Signora Trebelli has appeared, with her old success, as the *Rosina* of the "Barber;" and on Thursday night Signor Schira's long-promised opera, "Nicolo de' lapi," was produced for the first time.

THE Crystal Palace performance of "Athalie" on May-day was a success. Such "festivals" as these are something more than musical assemblages. Going to Sydenham on such an occasion, one enjoys a delightful spectacle as well as some delightful music. Each sets off the other. But to say that the monster choir and monster band, playing in the great transept, can produce a satisfactory rendering of a musical work, is more than one can venture on with truth. The performance is full of inequalities and disproportion; but it also includes certain peculiarly beautiful effects, resulting from the unusual means employed, to hear which were well worth a journey to the Palace. The effect, for example, of a sustained unison from a large body of sopranos, tempered by the vast space of this building, is most charming. One instance of this was noticed in the beautiful Recitative-chorus, "A star in his glory upriseth." The playing of the March, by a splendid band (of quadruple force) under Mr. Costa's direction, was, perhaps, the greatest hit of the day. Madlle. Parepa and Madame Sinton, who took the solo parts, were both fairly heard. The high notes of the first rang through the building with that same bright clearness which used to be noticed of Clara Novello.

A "NOVELTY-CONCERT," given by Messrs. Ever on Tuesday afternoon, deserves notice for having been made up of some eighteen or so entirely new compositions. Among these was a sextett of Brahms' for two violins, two violas, and two violoncellos. This was listened to with attention; but truth compels the confession that it failed to please. It is not remarkable for melody, and the violent and uncouth instrumentation of the slow movement was very unpleasant on a first hearing. Further acquaintance may, of course, reveal compensating beauties, but the composition does not seem a hopeful one.

THE Royal Society of Musicians' annual performance of the "Messiah" came off on Wednesday, at St. James's Hall, Madlle. Titens took the soprano part.

MADAME LIND-GOLDSCHMIDT AND HANDEL'S "L'ALLEGRO."

NOT for a long time has anything so interesting or so delightful happened in the musical world of London as the recent performance of Handel's "L'Allegro and Penseroso," given by Madame Goldschmidt for the benefit of a charity. No one probably now living can recollect a public performance of the entire work. A single song, "Let us wander not unseen," was a great favourite in the drawing-rooms of the last generation, and is familiarly known to most Handel-loving sopranos. Those, too, whose memory goes back to the Ancient Concerts still speak with enthusiasm of Miss Stephens's singing of this and one or two other airs. But the composition, as a whole, may be said to be new to our half of the century. We may hope that, after Madame Goldschmidt's performance it will be unknown no longer. Barren of new result as is our present musical epoch, we can at least claim the credit of being active revivalists and careful conservators. In music, as in architecture and painting, we are treating with respect the monuments of the past, and so doing something, though in a humble way, for posterity. Not many of Handel's larger vocal works remained to be rediscovered; now

that the dust of fifty years has been brushed off this delightful cantata, it ought not to be allowed to accumulate again. "L'Allegro and Penseroso" must be ranked, as to scale and power, with the settings of Dryden's odes, "St. Cecilia," and "Alexander's Feast." The dramatic element is nil; but the variety of tone and subject in Milton's poetry gave abundant play to the fancy of the composer. The music is full of colour and contrast. The "Penseroso" speaks, for the most part, in long drawn *largo* strains, answered in brighter measures by the "Allegro." Throughout the whole there runs that profuse wealth of melody, with which no man perhaps, Mozart and Beethoven alone excepted, was more richly endowed than Handel. But for the twang of eighteenth century conventionalism which first strikes the ear of a listener, this would be universally acknowledged. Handling as he does in this piece lighter themes than those we are familiar with in his Oratorios, he seems to have worked more freely, pouring forth a constant stream of tune, alternately gay and solemn, joyous and tender. Thinking of Handel as we generally do as the great and strong composer, we are almost surprised to note in the course of the piece so many little touches of gentle grace and winsome playfulness. In one of the earliest of the "Allegro" songs, for instance, what can be more delightfully airy than the setting of the lines—

Then to come in spite of sorrow
And at my window bid good morrow?

The melody here is as fresh as the best of Dr. Arne's, and the accompaniment has the brilliancy of Mozart.

The choruses, again, few as they are, are not to be surpassed for spirit and variety. The one which closes the first part (echoing the delightful passage "To many a youth and many a maid") ends in a "dying fall" of exquisite beauty on the words—

Thus past the day, to bed they creep,
By whispering winds soon lulled to sleep.

The glow of Milton's poetry is reflected in the music. The book, equal in length to a short Oratorio, is said to have been written, after the Handelian fashion, in a fortnight!

Madame Goldschmidt is so seldom to be heard by the public that her every appearance is an event. One is tempted to doubt whether it is good to adopt this fitful meteoric way of coming before the world. A great artist might do more effectual service to her art, at no greater cost to herself, by being content to take her place more simply among the world of artists, and work in concert with others. The want of such concert makes what she does sadly incomplete. The chorus, for instance, on this occasion, though composed of excellent materials, and good enough considering the circumstances of the performance, was far below the level of an ordinarily well-trained choir. Some of the most telling points in the piece were missed, for lack of the moderate amount of finish and exactness commonly attained by amateur bodies which are habituated to the discipline of a regular conductor. This, of course, will always be the case with what is called "scratch" choir. If Madame Goldschmidt would condescend to associate herself, from time to time, with a regularly organised choral body, the transcendent excellence of her own performance would no longer be marred by this inefficiency in its accompaniments. Of the singing of the lady herself we must regretfully confess that it is magnificent. Regretfully, for how can one treat the hiding of such a glorious talent in the obscurity of semi-retirement as otherwise than as a loss to Art and the world? Madame Goldschmidt is in all essential respects the Jenny Lind of fifteen years ago. She has lost one or two of her lovely upper notes (or lost the power of producing them without effort), and she shows throughout rather more physical strain than is consistent with perfect ease of delivery. But these are only very slight deductions; the quality of her voice is still lovely beyond all power of description. It has the same pearly sweetness, the same liquid purity, the same sympathetic softness which fascinated hundreds of thousands half a generation back. Its compass of intensity is far greater than that of any contemporary singer known to the world. She has still that wonderful power of sustaining a note with the most exquisite softness, and yet throwing, as it were, the whisper into the furthest corner of a room. In the stately and the pathetic *largos* of the "Penseroso" music she sings the long-drawn chains of notes in that perfectly balanced *cantabile* style which is the very crown of the vocal art. Several times, in the work referred to, there occurs one of those final cadences of which Handel is so fond, where the voice dwells

Spring," by P. F. Poole, a girl and child drinking at a fountain, a picture to be coveted, 175 guineas. The day's sale produced £2150.

To lovers of art who wish to spend half-an-hour agreeably we strongly recommend a visit to the rooms of the Arundel Society, 24, Old Bond Street. There are on view at this moment the publications preparing for issue in the course of the year—the fifteenth of the existence of the society—which, for excellence of selection and beauty of finish, equal anything yet given to the members and the public. The publications consist of a copper-plate engraving, by Mr. Schäffer, of "St. Stephen thrust out before his Martyrdom," in continuation of the series from the frescoes of Fra Angelico in the chapel of Nicholas V., in the Vatican; and of four chromo-lithographs, by Messrs. Storch and Kramer, of Berlin, made in continuation of the series from the frescoes in the Brancacci Chapel. These four engravings are the most perfect specimens of colour-printing which have yet been exhibited in this country, and show a progress of the art which is all but marvellous. The subject of the first is "St. Peter and St. Paul raising the King's Son," and "The Homage to St. Peter," by Masaccio and Filippino Lippi; of the second, a head from the same, on the scale and in exact imitation of the original; of the third, "St. Peter and St. John healing the Sick by their Shadows," and "St. Peter and St. John giving Alms," by Masaccio; and, of the fourth, a head from the last subject, also on the scale and in exact imitation of the original picture. Every one of these chromo-lithographs is a real work of Art, and the large heads, in particular, are wonderfully impressive.

THERE is much talk in the art-world about the treatment to which so distinguished an artist as Mr. John Brett has been subjected by the rejection of his two pictures offered to the Royal Academy Exhibition. In spite of this treatment, Lord Overstone, judging for himself, has, we hear, just purchased one of the two pictures—a view of Florence.

ART-TEACHING.

Monsieur le Directeur du Journal THE READER.

Monsieur,—J'ai suivi avec intérêt la polémique engagée dans votre journal au sujet de l'enseignement des beaux-arts dans votre pays. Il y a dans les divers articles que vous avez publiés à ce sujet des choses fort justes; mais il me semble qu'un côté important de la question n'a pas été signalé par les auteurs de ces articles. Ce qu'il faut à un peuple pour produire de grands artistes, c'est d'être lui-même artiste; il faut que le goût du beau soit répandu, non pas parmi un petit nombre de personnes appartenant aux classes élevées ou intermédiaires de la société, mais dans toute la masse du peuple. S'il n'en est pas ainsi, tout enseignement artistique échouera; vous apprendrez aux élèves les procédés matériels de l'art—you n'en ferez pas des artistes. Eh bien, je crois qu'il y a encore beaucoup à faire chez vous à cet égard. Il y a un progrès manifeste cependant, et ceux qui ont vu seulement les Expositions de 1855 et 1863 ont pu constater en votre faveur un progrès immense, au point de vue de l'art industriel en particulier.

Ce progrès est, selon moi, entravé par deux choses: la première est l'absence chez vous d'Expositions publiques et gratuites de peinture; la deuxième—et je sais que je touche ici à une forte grosse question—est la mesure qui fait fermer le dimanche non seulement ces Expositions mais les Musées de Peinture. Tant que ces deux choses, et la dernière surtout, subsisteront, les arts resteront chez vous le domaine de quelques privilégiés; la masse de la nation s'y intéressera faiblement, et vous aurez peu de grands artistes.

Permettez moi, puisque vous parlez de l'enseignement de la peinture en France, de vous parler un peu de ce qui se fait ici. Je viens aujourd'hui même de visiter l'Exposition publique des Artistes vivants; c'était le premier dimanche et le premier jour *gratuit* de l'Exposition; il y avait là des personnes de toutes conditions, et j'ai entendu formuler à mes côtés des jugements souvent fort justes, bien qu'exprimés d'une manière un peu rustique. Je ne vous dis pas que nous n'ayons ni méchants tableaux, ni fâcheux monuments, ni statues ridicules; il y en a peut-être plus que des autres; mais on est arrivé à ce point que l'opinion publique en fait justice, alors même que la presse, souvent portée chez nous à la camaraderie, se montre trop indulgente.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération,

G. T.

Paris, 3 Mai, 1863.

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for some time on a few closing notes dying away into silence. Such a point occurs on the words "them that sleep," in the "Messiah" ("I know that my Redeemer liveth"). Madame Goldschmidt's rendering of this used to be exquisitely beautiful. A similar passage occurs more than once in the cantata, and every time the effect on the audience was testified by that sigh of pleasure which is more eloquent than a thousand *bravas*. Such a faculty as this, added to the glow of enthusiasm which runs through all that Madame Goldschmidt does, makes up an artist such as the world cannot hope often to see; such as, so far as we know, there does not now live the like of. But, in the presence of Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt, one does not stop to reason upon this or that point of excellence. The listener feels at once that he is in the presence of a genius, a singer who is great in her art in virtue of being a great woman.

This has been said hundreds of times before; but it may as well be said again when some few people would represent this great artist as but a shadow (vocally) of her former self. There is no difference worth speaking of between what she was and what she is—except, perhaps, that her vocal finish is more perfect than before. But one cannot help asking, even at the risk of seeming to trench upon private ground, why should these great powers be doing nothing for the world? Charity is a noble thing, but it is better to begin by doing the plain duty of life; and what is the duty of Jenny Lind, to speak plainly, but to sing? Such great powers as hers were meant, if there is such a thing as a purpose and a reason in things, to be used. Their obvious use is to minister to the higher pleasures of the world and to the advancement of a noble art. They might be made to do this with a very slight demand on the liberty of their possessor, and with not less advantage to the noble cause of charity which she serves.

Madame Goldschmidt's associates in the performance were Madame Sherrington, Miss Lascelles, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Weiss. All, and especially the first, acquitted themselves well. The Hospital for Incurables must have profited largely by the evening's assemblage. R. B. L.

MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

MAY 11th to 16th.

MONDAY.—Popular Concert (Madame Goddard's Benefit, M. Viouxtemp's last appearance), St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.
Mr. Pauer's Fourth Historical Pianoforte Performance, Willis's Rooms, 5 p.m.

Mr. Deacon's Classical Music "Seance," 16, Grosvenor Street, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY.—New Philharmonic Concert (Symphony, Spohr's "Bower of Sound," Overtures, "King Stephen," "Fingal's Cave," Tamberlik, Fiorentini), St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY.—Herr Schloesser's Concert (Madame Albani, &c.), Hanover Square Rooms.

Miss Chippendale's Evening Concert, St. James's Hall.

FRIDAY.—Mr. Halle's First P. P. Recital, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

Madame Puzzi's Morning Concert, Hanover Square Rooms.

SATURDAY.—Concert (Afternoon) by Students of "London Academy of Music," St. James's Hall.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN.—To-night and Monday, "Il Barbiere;" Tuesday, "William Tell;" Thursday, "Don Juan."

THE DRAMA.

MR. KEAN AT THE PRINCESS'S.

MR. KEAN was supposed to have retired from the stage, having taken what was considered a farewell of the London public, and received a testimonial in token thereof. However, as Mr. Kean's admirers did not desire his retirement, they would not be likely to object to his return; and their willingness to meet him again has been testified in an unmistakable manner. His reception at the Princess's on Monday was thoroughly warm and cordial, and it was evident that the actor and the audience were old friends. And not only for the actor was the kindly feeling expressed. An equally sincere welcome awaited Mrs. Kean, who, for her own high qualities, has so firm a place in the public esteem.

It was in "Hamlet" that Mr. Kean opened his new series of performances. The selection was natural; for the character is not only the loftiest conception of its great author, and its delineation the highest object of an actor's ambition, but it is the part of all others to which Mr. Kean has devoted most study—upon which he has employed his greatest intellectual resources. The actor who makes the part of *Hamlet* his own wins the blue ribbon of the stage. That Mr. Kean has won this ideal decoration we dare not say; and we fancy that, of the bolder spirits who were once prepared to do battle for the assertion, many have of late been "knocked over" by superior intellectual force. It is not pleasant to make the admission, but Art knows no nationality; and the truth

must be told, that the public ideas of *Hamlet* have been sorely disturbed by a certain Prince of Denmark, who was unlike any Prince of Denmark ever seen before. He had the fair hair of the North, and spoke in a voice that—albeit foreign to the language—was charming in its music and cultured modulation. He was such a grand gentleman, too, and such a perfect prince. Not a king; for a king has affairs of state to attend to—mean details to take into consideration, which vulgarize him a little and detract from the poetic character! He was so many things, in fact, which we think *Hamlet* should be, and which most *Hamlets* are not, and these things were so evident, that the public recognised him without any course of training, and took to the new idea of *Hamlet*, as if the critics had been dinning it into their ears from childhood. Now, after making up one's mind about the character, and giving it up to M. Fechter as a conquest over the English which we could no more help acknowledging than that of William the Norman, it was a trial of no ordinary severity to be once more introduced to the conventional creation, admirably as it might be rendered, irreproachable as it might be in all respects of culture and refinement. The very appearance of the Prince, as represented by Mr. Kean, familiar as it has been of old, seemed strange to the eye. The close black hair and shaven face so long associated with *Hamlet* are not much more appropriate to the part than the powdered wig and court-suit in which Garrick used to play *Macbeth*. Not, however, that we blame Mr. Kean for retaining them, or for adhering to his general rendering of the character, in which we could not distinguish the change of a gesture or an emphasis; for, in performing what may seem an ungracious office, by making a comparison in this matter, we have no desire to under-rate the merits which Mr. Kean undoubtedly possesses. We have said that Mr. Fechter looks like a gentleman and a prince in the part, and we should be sorry to deny the same attributes to Mr. Kean, who is more like both than the majority of gentlemen and princes in real life. It was an ideal and not a conventional distinction that we intended to draw. For the rest, it cannot be denied for Mr. Kean that it is through no fault of his if he is not the best *Hamlet* on the stage. His conception and reading of the part are, at any rate, those of a man of thought and a scholar; and these are qualifications with which he may well be content. That they are appreciated by a large portion of the play-going public is evident from the reception which his present performances have obtained; and we are quite content that some among them should take a higher view of his claims.

Of Mrs. Kean we have not yet spoken; and it may now be sufficient to say that in the not very pleasant part of the *Queen* she was worthy of herself—displaying a power which has not forsaken her, and a judgment and delicacy equally her own. In the closet-scene in the fourth act—where she makes her strongest effort—she was enthusiastically applauded.

In a piece hastily produced, for the sake of bringing forward two particular persons, it would be unfair to criticise too closely the general cast. It may be remarked, however, that Miss Chapman made a charming *Ophelia*, and was far stronger in her principal "points" than would have been anticipated from her treatment of the more level portions of her part. This young lady, from whose progress a great deal may be anticipated, will, we believe, accompany Mr. and Mrs. Kean to Australia. The performance of Mr. Belmore, as the first gravedigger, deserves mention for a degree of merit which we must be pardoned for saying was unexpected—though Mr. Belmore has for some time past been looked upon as a rising actor.

"Othello" was produced on Tuesday. Without meaning to infer that Mr. Kean's *Othello* is a better performance than his *Hamlet*, we must declare it to be better in the fact that the actor is more fitted for the part. For action and passion are his real sources of strength after all; and in certain characters—those approaching somewhat to the melodramatic, more especially—he is, perhaps, without a rival. Mrs. Kean had a more pleasant task than on the previous evening, and won her new honours in her old way, drawing down the repeated plaudits of the house. The *Desdemona* was the *Ophelia* of the night before, and was equally natural and pleasing. There was little else to call for remark in the representation, except the acting of Mr. Roxby in *Roderigo*, which was as neat and artistic as the acting of that gentleman usually is.

"Louis XI." was the piece selected for the third night of Mr. and Mrs. Kean; but we must reserve our remarks upon this performance.

THE LONDON THEATRES.

OF the two new pieces brought out in London on Monday evening we are sorry to say that neither achieved more than a mere escape from non-success. The "Little Sentinel," at the St. James's, is obviously of French origin. No doubt it was produced with the intention of giving Miss Marie Wilton one of those sprightly and picturesque parts which she plays with so much grace and liveliness; but, unfortunately, that is precisely what it does not give her—for the *Little Sentinel* is hardly worth calling a character, and the rest of the *dramatis personæ* are very little more than pieces of stage furniture, brought on to be hustled about. A few words will serve to tell the plot. Letty Hawthorn, a young widow possessed of a farm, and played by Miss A. Cottrell, is engaged to be married to the brother of her friend May, Miss Marie Wilton. Her fiancé is away at sea, and she is amusing herself with the attentions of two would-be lovers—one a Mr. Wheelton Coaxer, an elderly lady-killer (Mr. S. Johnson); the other a Captain Clarence Courtington (Mr. Gaston Murray), a sort of *Dundreary* in the dragoons. Against the assiduities of these worthies, May thinks it her duty to watch, in the interest of her sea-faring brother. The only result of her interference, however, is that she arouses the jealousy of her own sweetheart, makes the young widow exhibit herself as a shameless flirt, and compels the audience to conclude that she would have done her absent brother better service by helping his release from his faithless betrothed. Miss Wilton did her best to make the piece amusing; but out of nothing nothing can come, and the "Little Sentinel" is not likely to mount guard for any length of time on the stage of the St. James's. Mr. Horace Wigan's "Goggins's Gingham," at the Strand, is certainly the worst piece he has yet produced; and how he ever came to produce it at all surprises us. Plot the piece has none; or, if it has any, it is hidden from the audience, as are the motives of most of the characters. Mr. Goggins, played by Mr. Rice, has come to London for the purpose of receiving an appointment on the Underground Railway, and of marrying a young lady to whom he is engaged. He has met, however, a certain Mrs. Evermay on a wet night, and offered her his arm and a share of his umbrella to escort her to a hotel in Bermondsey, which happens to be the hotel in which he is himself staying. For this act of civility he is discarded by his betrothed, disinherited by his uncle, bullied by an Irish brother of Mrs. Evermay's, and compelled to promise marriage to that lady. All this done, the uncle—the papa of the young lady to whom Goggins is engaged—and the blazing Irish cavalry officer rush in and declare that it's all a mistake; though what the mistake is, or how they have found it out, they keep to themselves. The upshot of all is, that Goggins is to marry his proper fiancée, and Mrs. Evermay bestows her hand upon his uncle—from force of example, we suppose, for there appears to be no other motive for the proceeding. To the spirited acting of Miss E. Bufton the piece was indebted for whatever applause was bestowed upon it; but we cannot anticipate for it either a long life or a merry one at the Strand.

During the early part of the week the bills of this gay little theatre announced the "last five nights of the season;" but the intention of the manager to close his house has, we believe, been abandoned. On Wednesday evening Mr. Leigh Murray began a short series of farewell performances, previous to his departure for Australia. The mention of one theatrical favourite naturally reminds of another. The public will regret to hear that the widow of the late James Rogers is left in needy circumstances. A "benefit" is spoken of as the readiest means of assisting her; and we hear that Mr. Falconer has offered the free use of Drury Lane Theatre for the purpose.

M. LEVASSOR opened at the Egyptian Hall (in the Dudley Gallery) on Tuesday night with an entertainment entitled "Levassor en Visite." It is very clever, very French, and slightly coarse. Its liveliness, at any rate, was undeniable. It has been a success as yet; but it is doubtful whether M. Levassor is strong enough to attract a London audience for any length of time.

MR. EMDEN of the Olympic Theatre writes to us that there is no truth in any such report as that Captain H. Rhys has made arrangements for taking that theatre. So long as Mr. Emden has health to conduct it, he has no intention that it shall change hands.

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